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REVIEW ARTICLE

- 1** **Advances in Atopic Dermatitis**
 Liang-Shiou Ou, MD; Donald YM Leung, MD, PhD
 Atopic dermatitis (AD) is a highly pruritic chronic inflammatory skin disorder affecting 10-20% of children worldwide. During the past year there have been significant advances in our understanding of the cellular and immunologic mechanism underlying AD as well as the immunologic triggers involved in its pathogenesis. New management approaches have evolved from advances in understanding of the pathobiology of this common skin disorder.
 Original Articles

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

- 9** **Rush Pin Fixation Versus Traction and Casting for Femoral Fracture in Children Older than Seven years**
 Zhon-Liau Lee, MD; Chia-Hsieh Chang, MD; Wen-E Yang, MD; Shuo-Suei Hung, MD
 Results after Rush pin fixation for pediatric femoral shaft fractures were compared with that by traction and casting. Surgery resulted in shorter hospital stays (10 days vs. 27 days, $p < 0.05$) and fewer leg length discrepancies (4.2 mm vs. 7.1 mm, $p < 0.05$). In a mean follow-up of 59 months after surgery, non-reaming intramedullary pin fixation through the greater trochanter in an immature skeleton did not demonstrate femoral growth inhibition.
- 16** **Combination Chemotherapy with Carmustine and Cisplatin Followed by Procarbazine, Lomustine, and Vincristine for Adult High-Grade Astrocytoma**
 Chi-Ting Liao, MD; Kuo-Chen Wei, MD; Chen-Kan Tseng, MD; Shih-Ming Jung, MD
 In an attempt to improve the survival of patients with malignant gliomas, we studied a combination regimen that consisted of BCNU and cisplatin given concurrently during radiotherapy followed by PCV after radiotherapy. There were 42 patients in the study. Our trial indicated that the only factor that had a conventionally significant effect on overall survival was resectability and there was no survival benefit to justify the increased costs and toxicities associated with PCV. It is reasonable not to offer routine adjuvant chemotherapy until recurrence or participation in clinical trials.
- 24** **Diabetic Ketoacidosis: Comparisons of Patient Characteristics, Clinical Presentations and Outcomes Today and 20 Years Ago**
 Sue-Fu Lin, MD; Jen-Der Lin, MD; Yu-Yao Huang, MD, PhD
 Similar clinical manifestations, precipitating factors and laboratory data were found between DKA patients in the present study and one conducted 20 years ago at the same hospital. However, the mortality rate was significantly reduced (7.96% 20 years ago to 0.67% today). *Klebsiella pneumoniae* was the leading cause of bacterial infection in precipitating the disease in our hospital. Young women with type 1 diabetes were susceptible to recurrent DKA.
- 31** **Incidence and Risk Factors of Medical Complications during Inpatient Stroke Rehabilitation**
 Jen-Wen Hung, MD; Tzong-Horng Tsay, MD; Hsueh-Wen Chang, PhD; Chau-Peng Leong, MD; Yiu-Chung Lau, MD
 Charts of 346 stroke patients who were consecutively admitted or transferred for inpatient rehabilitation in a tertiary care hospital were retrospectively reviewed. Forty-four percent of patients experienced 1 or more complications. The most common complications were musculoskeletal pain (15.0%), urinary tract infection (13.6%), depression (9.3%), upper gastrointestinal tract bleeding (4.9%), and pneumonia (4.9%). The occurrence of any medical complication was significantly associated with the following factors: being female, having no voluntary movement of the affected hand, being more functionally dependent, and having to undergo Foley catheter insertion.

39 Retinopathy of Prematurity: An Evaluation in the Keelung Area of Taiwan over A 10-Year Period

Ko-Jen Yang, MD; Chen-Hsin Tsai, MD; Chi-Chun Lai, MD; Chia-Shun Lu, MD; Tun-Lu Chen, MD

A retrospective review was carried out of all premature infants with a diagnosis of retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) at Keelung CGMH, Taiwan between 1994 and 2003. In total, 458 infants were screened for ROP. Threshold ROP occurred in 24 eyes of 12 infants. The average BBW and GA were significantly lower in the threshold than in the non-threshold ROP group ($p < 0.05$). Anatomical success was attained in 13 (81.3%) of 16 eyes after transscleral cryotherapy. The results showed that low GA and BBW are major risk factors for ROP. Laser therapy is now believed to be less damaging to ocular structures and just as effective as cryotherapy in treating ROP.

CASE REPORTS

44 Perioperative Hypertensive Crisis in Clinically Silent Pheochromocytomas: Report of Four Cases

Sjen-Jung Shen, MD; Hon-Mei Cheng, MD, MPH; Allen W. Chiu, MD, PhD; Chien-Wen Chou, MD; Jen-Yin Chen, MD

We report on 4 cases of pheochromocytomas incidentally presenting on abdominal images, which were benign in nature and confirmed biochemically and pathologically with immunophenotypic staining. These tumors were characterized as follows: (1) they had no particular symptoms; (2) they were associated with apparent fluctuations in blood pressure; and (3) 3 examinees experienced a hypertensive crisis during surgery. Dramatic hypotension emerged in 2 cases after the tumor had been excised. These blood pressure changes had no correlation with the size of the tumor. Despite their clinical silence, the tumors were probably not biologically silent. Surgical resection of these tumors had risks of complications, such as hypertensive and hypotensive crises, but were probably no less than for other tumors.

51 Concomitant Bilateral Orbital and Brain Abscesses - Unusual Complications of Pediatric Rhinosinusitis

Shiang-Fu Huang, MD; Ta-Jen Lee, MD; Kuang-Lin Lin, MD

A 6 year-old girl suffered from acute rhinosinusitis, subperiosteal abscesses in both orbits and bilateral frontal lobe abscesses. Surgery was performed to eradicate sinusitis and orbital infections. The brain abscesses were treated with vancomycin and rifampin for 7 weeks. She was free of ocular and neurological sequelae at the 1-year follow-up.

56 Hereditary Neuropathy with Liability to Pressure Palsies: A Clinical and Genetic Study of A Taiwanese Family

Yu-Tai Tsai, MD; Hung-Chou Kuo, MD; Chun-Che Chu, MD; Kon-Ping Lin, MD; Chin-Chang Huang, MD

Hereditary neuropathy with liability to pressure palsies (HNPP) is an autosomal dominant disorder characterized by recurrent isolated nerve palsies. We present the clinical features, electrophysiological studies, nerve biopsy results, and molecular analyses of one patient and his family members. Among the 7 family members evaluated, one latent and three symptomatic patients were found who showed a heterogeneous presentation from asymptomatic to characteristically recurrent peripheral neuropathy with a characteristic conduction slowing in nerve conduction studies and a typical tomaculous appearance in a nerve biopsy. The diagnosis of HNPP might be overlooked if based on clinical presentation only.

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