

ARCHIVES

INTERNAL MEDICINE

VOL 156 NO. 1, JANUARY 8, 1996

Editorial

- Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment:
Where Do We Go From Here?** 15
*M. Andrew Greganti, MD,
Laura C. Hanson, MD*

Commentary

- US Physician Manpower Needs:
Generalists and Specialists:
Achieving the Balance** 21
James E. Dalen, MD, MPH

Special Article

- Protocol for Writing Cause-of-Death
Statements for Deaths Due to Natural Causes** 25
Randy Hanzlick, MD

Review Articles

- Pathogenesis and Treatment of the
Adult Respiratory Distress Syndrome** 29
*William J. Fulkerson, MD; Neil MacIntyre, MD;
Jonathan Stamler, MD; James D. Crapo, MD*

- Evaluation of the Patient With 'Rule
Out Myocardial Infarction'** 41
*William R. Lewis, MD,
Ezra A. Amsterdam, MD*

Original Investigations

- The Efficacy of Intravenous
Amiodarone for the Conversion
of Chronic Atrial Fibrillation:
Amiodarone vs Quinidine for
Conversion of Atrial Fibrillation** 49
*Nicholas Z. Kerin, MD; Kathy Fattel, RN, BSN;
Mansour Naini, MD*

- The Impact of Clinical Trials on the
Use of Medications for Acute
Myocardial Infarction: Results
of a Community-Based Study** 54
*Nananda F. Col, MD, MPP, MPH;
Thomas J. McLaughlin, ScD;
Stephen B. Soumerai, ScD;
David W. Hosmer, Jr, PhD;
Jorge Yarzebski, MD, MPH;
Jerry H. Gurwitz, MD;
Joel M. Gore, MD;
Robert J. Goldberg, PhD*

American Medical Association

Physicians dedicated to the health of America



Copyright 1996 by the American Medical Association. All rights reserved.
Reproduction without permission is prohibited.

All articles published, including editorials, letters, and book reviews, represent the opinions of the authors and do not reflect the policy of the American Medical Association, the Editorial Board, or the institution with which the author is affiliated, unless this is clearly specified.

James S. Todd, MD
Executive Vice President
Kenneth E. Monroe
Deputy Executive Vice President
James F. Rappel
Group Vice President,
Business and Management Services

George D. Lundberg, MD
Editor in Chief, Scientific
Information and Multimedia

Robert L. Kennett
Vice President, Publishing

Michael D. Springer
Publisher

Mary C. Steermann
Director, Production and
Distribution Division

Cheryl Iverson
Director, Editorial Processing
Division

Peter L. Payerli
Director, Advertising Sales

Geoffrey A. Flek
Manager, Marketing Services

Advertising Offices: East: Phillip B. Altamore, Peter G. Messina, John L. Reeves, 119 Cherry Hill Rd, 3rd Flr, Parsippany, NJ 07054 (201) 263-9191. Midwest/West: Monica E. Brent, 515 N State St, Chicago, IL 60610 (312) 464-2470. **AMA Physician Recruitment Advertising Department:** Carri Lynch, Supervisor, 800-262-2260.

Effect of Potassium Supplementation on Blood Pressure in African Americans on a Low-Potassium Diet: A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-Controlled Trial Frederick L. Brancati, MD, MHS; Lawrence J. Appel, MD, MPH; Alexander J. Seidler, PhD; Paul K. Whelton, MD, MSc	61	Leisure-Time Physical Activity Among US Adults: Results From the Third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey Carlos J. Crespo, DrPH, MS; Steven J. Keteyian, PhD; Gregory W. Heath, DHSc, MPH; Christopher T. Sempos, PhD	93
Cost-effectiveness of Pulmonary Embolism Diagnosis Russell D. Hull, MBBS; William Feldstein, MBA; Paul D. Stein, MD; Graham F. Pineo, MD	68	The Low Frequency of Futility in an Adult Intensive Care Unit Setting Amir Halevy, MD; Ryan C. Neal, MD; Baruch A. Brody, PhD	100
Postdischarge Geriatric Assessment of Hospitalized Frail Elderly Patients Albert L. Siu, MD, MSPH; Richard L. Kravitz, MD, MSPH; Emmett Keeler, PhD; Karen Hemmerling, MPH; Raynard Kington, MD, PhD; James W. Davis, MD; Anne Mitchell, RNP; Tanya M. Burton, MS; Hal Morgenstern, PhD; Mark H. Beers, MD; David B. Reuben, MD	76	————— <i>Clinical Observation</i>	
		Inappropriate Thyroid Gland Ablation in Patients With Generalized Resistance to Thyroid Hormone: A Common Sequela of a Rare Disorder Mark T. Gladwin, MD, P. Barton Duell, MD	106
		————— <i>Regular Departments</i>	
Contaminated Stethoscopes Revisited Melinda A. Smith, MPH; John J. Mathewson, PhD; I. Alan Ulert, MD; Ernesto G. Scerpella, MD; Charles D. Ericsson, MD	82	Index to Advertisers	2
The Effect of Age and Comorbidity in the Treatment of Elderly Women With Nonmetastatic Breast Cancer Craig J. Newschaffer, MS; Lynne Penberthy, MD, MPH; Christopher E. Desch, MD; Sheldon M. Retchin, MD, MSPH; Martha Whittemore, MS	85	Instructions for Authors	11
		Editor's Correspondence	110
		Physician Recruitment Advertising	114

ARCHIVES

INTERNAL MEDICINE

Editor:

James E. Dalen, MD
2601 N Campbell Ave, Suite 202
Tucson, AZ 85719

Deputy Editor:

Timothy C. Fagan, MD
Tucson, Ariz

Associate Editors:

William S. Dalton, MD
Tucson, Ariz

Robert J. Goldberg, PhD
Worcester, Mass

Eskild A. Petersen, MD
Tucson, Ariz

Editorial Assistant:

Janet S. Frank
Tucson, Ariz

Editorial Board:

Joseph S. Alpert, MD
Tucson, Ariz

Diek D. Briggs, Jr, MD
Birmingham, Ala

Christine K. Cassel, MD
New York, NY

Marvin I. Dunn, MD
Kansas City, Kan

Alvan R. Feinstein, MD
New Haven, Conn

Faith T. Fitzgerald, MD
Sacramento, Calif

Jack Hirsh, MD

Hamilton, Ontario

John P. Howe III, MD
San Antonio, Tex

Jack M. Natloff, MD
Los Angeles, Calif

Kevin M. McIntyre, MD, JD
Boston, Mass

Steven Swiryn, MD
Evanston, Ill

John G. Weg, MD
Ann Arbor, Mich