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Editor

It is our pleasure to offer our readers the third issue of MedicalExpress (June, 2014). For our second issue, April, 2014, we now have data showing that the average interval between submission and first action was 11 days (range 6 – 22 days). Between acceptance and publication the corresponding value was 58 days (range: 37 – 71 days). For this issue, our submission to first response interval averaged 9 days (range 7 – 21 days).

We are happy to offer an expert editorial by Barbosa et al, from Oporto, Portugal, updating rules and procedures appertaining to the use of nitrous oxide/oxygen for pediatric dentistry; this editor is somewhat partial to this procedure having pleasant memories of having been submitted to an otherwise painful dentistry procedure at the age of ten. Two reviews and seven original research articles complete the issue. The reviews come from the University of Pisa, Italy and from the Faculdade de Medicina de Jundiaí, Brazil. The first, authored by Gian Maria Pacifici analyzes the Clinical pharmacology of analgesics in infants and the pharmacologic management of pain in the neonate; the second, by Pereira et al, covers the field of restless syndrome in pediatric patients.

Four original research articles come from Brazil, while one is a joint project from India and the USA. Esteves et al (Campinas, SP) describe an original procedure for removing antibodies from human spermatozoa destined for in-vitro fertilization and conclude that sperm washing by density gradient centrifugation is an overall effective method to remove antibodies bound to sperm membranes, regardless of the levels of antisperm antibodies in the neat semen.

Miranda et al (Rio de janeiro, RJ) analyzed the protective microcirculatory and anti-inflammatory effects of heparin on endotoxemic hamsters and conclude that it yields protective effects on the microcirculation; these benefits were potentiated when heparin was administered in conjunction with recombinant human activated protein C.

Martins et al (Brasilia, DF) examined hemiparetic patients with body disabling lesions and found such lesions do not appear to determine differences in the body mass index when compared to matched healthy controls.

Sharma et al (Kalamazoo, MI, Philadelphia, PA, Cleveland OH and Chandigarh, India) examined clippings posted in YouTube as a source of information for the Metallo-β-lactamase-1, responsible for the emergence of the novel New Delhi “Superbug” (carbapenem-resistant). They found that circa 60% of these clippings were mere news updates, 20% were of a misleading nature, leaving only 20% as useful informative pieces. Because YouTube uploads are not subject to scientific scrutiny and may be posted anonymously, health professionals should be vigilant in recognizing videos containing misleading information and should counsel and educate patients against indiscriminate absorption of online video information of a medical nature.

Ferrari et al (Belo Horizonte, MG) endeavored to analyze parameters useful as early predictors of long term chronic kidney disease after liver transplantation and found that elevated levels of the immunosuppressant tacrolimus at three months post-liver transplantation are an independent predictor of chronic kidney disease development as late as two years after the surgical procedure. They recommend careful control in the dosing of this agent.

Marques et al (Campo Grande, MT) report that women with fistulizing Crohn’s disease respond better than men to biological therapy with infliximab or adalimumab.

Raimundo et al (Pouso Alegre, MG, Marilia, Ribeirão Preto, São Paulo, SP) tested the response of a population of young healthy sedentary women to a ten-minute uninterrupted bout of interactive boxing through a video-game and report that results indicate that this is sufficient to cause a significant and important increase in metabolic activity. They suggest that the procedure may be useful to induce physical fitness in senior patients, but issue a warning regarding cardiac patients.

In summary we feel confident that the independent nature of MedicalExpress will in the long run be conducive to a more cosmopolitan source of contributions.