

# Emergency Medicine Journal

including pre-hospital care

Journal of the British Association for  
Accident and Emergency Medicine  
Official Journal of the British Association for Immediate Care  
and the Faculty of Pre-Hospital Care of the  
Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh



## Editors

Geoff Hughes (Australia)  
Kevin Mackway-Jones (UK)

## Deputy editors

Steve Goodacre (Acute medicine) (UK)  
Colville Laird (Prehospital Care) (UK)  
Ian Maconochie (Paediatric emergency medicine) (UK)  
Jonathan Wyatt (Web editor) (UK)

## Associate editors

Simon Carley (Evidence-based medicine) (UK)  
Darren Walter (Prehospital Care) (UK)  
Malcolm Woollard (Prehospital Care) (UK)

## Managing editor

Andrea Horgan

## Development editor

Gavin Stewart

## Production editor

Claire Folkes

## Editorial assistant

Emma Sweetman

## Editorial board

R Araujo (Portugal)	T Judge (USA)
T Beattie (UK)	C MacFarlane (South Africa)
K Boffard (South Africa)	I McNeill (UK)
C Brookes (UK)	S Meek (UK)
T Brown (Australia)	P Nee (UK)
M Clancy (UK)	J Nolan (UK)
T Coats (UK)	K Porter (UK)
M Cooke (UK)	M Shalley (UK)
R Crouch (UK)	J Sloan (UK)
F Davies (UK)	G Syed (UK)
R Dowdle (UK)	R Touquet (UK)
H Guly (UK)	L Wallis (South Africa)
J Henry (UK)	D Watson (UK)
J Heyworth (UK)	Editor, <i>BMJ</i>
T Hodgetts (UK)	
R Illingworth (UK)	

## EMJ Supplement

Mike Beckett (UK)  
Diana Hulbert (UK)

## International editions of the EMJ

South Africa, Campbell MacFarlane (Editor)

## Guidelines for authors and reviewers

Full instructions are available online at  
[www.emj.bmjournals.com/ifa](http://www.emj.bmjournals.com/ifa)

## Subscription information

See inside front cover

## Copyright

© 2006 *Emergency Medicine Journal*. All rights reserved; no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise without the prior permission of *Emergency Medicine Journal*.

Authors are required to grant *Emergency Medicine Journal* an exclusive licence to publish; further details available online at <http://emj.bmjournals.com/misc/ifa.html>.

- Emergency Medicine Journal* is published by BMJ Publishing Group, copyedited by Macmillan India Ltd, typeset by The Charlesworth Group, and Printed in UK on acid free paper by MPG Books Limited, Bodmin.
- Periodicals postage paid, Rahway, NJ. Postmaster: send address changes to: *Emergency Medicine Journal*, c/o Mercury Airfreight International Ltd, 365 Blair Road, Avenel, NJ 07001, USA.
- ISSN: 1472-0205 (print version)
- ISSN: 1472-0213 (electronic version)



# contents EMJ

Volume 23 Number 11 November 2006

## Editorial

822 In search of excellence *G Hughes*

## Commentary

823 "Brutacaine" vanquished, but pain remains  
*J Bengert*

## Reviews

824 Emergency medicine, organ donation and the  
Human Tissue Act *M D D Bell*

828 Early goal-directed therapy: a UK perspective  
*A D Reuben, A V Appelboom, I Higginson,  
J G Lloyd, N I Shapiro*

## Original articles

833 Effectiveness and safety of an emergency  
department short-stay unit as an alternative to  
standard inpatient hospitalisation *A Juan,  
A Salazar, A Alvarez, J R Perez, L Garcia,  
X Corbella*

838 Consigning "brutacaine" to history: a survey of  
pharmacological techniques to facilitate painful  
procedures in children in emergency  
departments in the UK *B Loryman, F Davies,  
G Chavada, T Coats*

841 Validation of physiological scoring systems in the  
accident and emergency department *C P Subbe,  
A Slater, D Menon, L Gemmell*

846 Impairment of coagulation by commonly used  
resuscitation fluids in human volunteers *T J Coats,  
E Brazil, M Heron, P K MacCallum*

850 Evaluation of low-cost computer monitors for the  
detection of cervical spine injuries in the  
emergency room: an observer confidence-based  
study *M H Brem, C Böhner, A Brenning, K Gelse,  
T Radkow, M Blanke, P M Schlechtweg,  
G Neumann, I Y Wu, W Bautz, F F Hennig,  
H Richter*

854 Rapid onset of haemodynamic effects after  
angiotensin converting enzyme-inhibitor  
overdose: implications for initial patient triage  
*C Lucas, G A Christie, W S Waring*

858 Adverse events experienced while transferring the  
critically ill patient from the emergency department  
to the intensive care unit *L Gillman, G Leslie,  
T Williams, K Fawcett, R Bell, V McGibbon*

862 Fluid replacement via the rectum for treatment of  
hypovolaemic shock in an animal model  
*A S Girisgin, F Acar, B Cander, M Gul, S Kocak,  
S Bodur*

## Short reports

865 Patients' experiences of care provided by  
emergency care practitioners and traditional  
ambulance practitioners: a survey from the  
London Ambulance Service *M Halter, T Marlow,  
C Tye, G T H Ellison*

867 Are today's junior doctors confident in  
managing patients with minor injury? *S J Croft,  
A Kuhrt, S Mason*



[www.publicationethics.org.uk](http://www.publicationethics.org.uk)

This journal is a member of and  
subscribes to the principles of the  
Committee on Publication Ethics

..... 884

## Toxicology: An Australian perspective

- 869 Toxicology case of the month: carbamazepine overdose *J Soderstrom, L Murray, M Little, F F S Daly*


.....

## Best evidence topic reports

- 872 Towards evidence based emergency medicine: best BETs from the Manchester Royal Infirmary *Edited by S D Carley*
- 872 Does a normal-shaped pupil exclude the diagnosis of iritis *T Hunsley, C Lee*
- 873 Use of lidocaine in the gastrointestinal cocktail for the treatment of dyspepsia *J Bowman, J Jones*
- 874 Diagnosis of drug overdose by rapid reversal with naloxone *J Barrie, G May*
- 875 Pregnancy-associated plasma protein A: a novel cardiac marker with promise *R Body, C Ferguson*

.....

## Prehospital care

- 878  Case of the month: A brief overview of personal safety at incident sites *V Calland*

.....

## Emergency casebook

- 883 The skin wrinkle test: a simple nerve injury test for paediatric and uncooperative patients *A Tindall, R Dawood, B Povlsen*

- 884 Images in Emergency Medicine: Rigler's sign in a patient with massive pneumoperitoneum *S Milanchi, D Wood*

- 885 Emergency casebook abstracts
- Non-traumatic clostridium infection: report of an unusual case with rapid progression and a paucity of clinical signs in a patient with type 1 diabetes *F A Chuhan*

A rare complication of chlorine gas inhalation: pneumomediastinum *O Akdur, P Durukan, I Ikizceli*

Rickettsia: an unusual cause of sepsis in the emergency department *E Chipp, S Digby*

An unusual acute abdomen in a 4-monthold infant *D Geggie, L Walton*

A case of miliary tuberculosis presenting with bowel perforation *S Muquit, M Shah, K Abayajeewa*

- 886 Images in Emergency Medicine: Pulmonary involvement in Henoch-Schonlein purpura *A Soloukides, D-A Moutzouris, G Metaxatos, V Hadjiconstantinou*

- 886 Images in Emergency Medicine: Tramlines: pneumatosis intestinalis secondary to enterocolitis *C Bird, J Corcoran, D Kelly, P Goulder, K Lakhoo*

.....

## PostScript

- 887 Letters
- 889 Book reviews
- 890 Sophia