

Emergency Medicine Journal

including pre-hospital care

Journal of the British Association for
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)

Editorial board

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

EMJ Supplement

Mike Beckett (UK)
Diana Hulbert (UK)

Guidelines for authors and reviewers

Full instructions are available online at <http://emj.com/fora>
All papers must be submitted via Bench > Press at
<http://submit-emj.com>

Subscription information

See inside front cover

Disclaimer

The *Emergency Medicine Journal* is published by BMJ Publishing Group Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of the British Medical Association, and the British Association for Emergency Medicine.

The BMA grants editorial freedom to the Editor of the *Emergency Medicine Journal*. The *Emergency Medicine Journal* follows guidelines on editorial independence produced by the World Association of Medical Editors and the code on good publication practice of the Committee on Publication Ethics.

The *Emergency Medicine Journal* is intended for medical professionals and is provided without warranty, express or implied. Statements in the journal are the responsibility of their authors and advertisers and not authors' institutions, the BMJ Publishing Group or the BMA unless otherwise specified or determined by law. Acceptance of advertising does not imply endorsement.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the BMJ Publishing Group shall not be liable for any loss, injury or damage resulting from the use of the *Emergency Medicine Journal* or any information in it whether based on contract, tort, or otherwise. Readers are advised to verify any information they choose to rely on.

Copyright

© 2007 *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.com/fora>

• *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 Cambrian Printers Ltd, Aberystwyth.

• 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 24 Number 1 January 2007

Editorial

- 2 Urgent care: is this the future? Probably *G Hughes*

Commentaries

- 3 Fluid replacement via the rectum for treatment of hypovolaemic shock in an animal model *B A Foëx, P Dark, R Rees Davies*
- 5 Does emergency medicine in the UK have a future? *A M Leaman*

Review

- 7 The use of classroom training and simulation in the training of medical responders for airport disaster *A M Idrose, W A W Adnan, G F Villa, A H A Abdullah*

Original articles

- 12 The psychological effect of severe acute respiratory syndrome on emergency department staff *C-Y Lin, Y-C Peng, Y-H Wu, J Chang, C-H Chan, D-Y Yang*
- 18 Post-war development of emergency medicine in Kosovo *K P O'Hanlon, E B Lerner*
- 22 Emergency blood transfusion services after the 2005 earthquake in Pakistan *S A Mujeeb, S H Jaffery*
- 25 The impacts and outcomes of implementing head injury guidelines: clinical experience in Thailand *S Ratanalert, T Kornsilp, N Chintragoolpradub, S Kongchoochouy*
- 31 Sick notes, general practitioners, emergency departments and fracture clinics *C A Walker, A Gregori, P O'Connor, K Jaques, R Joseph*

Short reports

- 33 Delays in the treatment of cauda equina syndrome due to its variable clinical features in patients presenting to the emergency department *I Jalloh, P Minhas*
- 35 Patients' perceptions of nasopharyngeal aspiration in the emergency department of a teaching hospital in Hong Kong *A K C Wai, W O Kwok, M S Chan, C A Graham, T H Rainer*

Socrates

- 37 SOCRATES episode II: (synopsis of Cochrane Reviews applicable to emergency services episode II) the return of the series *P Gilligan, P Jennings, J Cooper, D Hegarty, J Lee, A Khan, G Lumsden, D Godden, A Pountney, B Wilson, M Shepherd, L Allonby-Neve, C Mehigan, E Kidney, A Broderick, S Carr, S Wilson, J O' Sullivan*

An occasional series on critical care

- 40 Critical care in the emergency department: patient transfer *M J G Dunn, C L Gwinnutt, A J Gray*






www.publicationethics.org.uk

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

Best evidence topic reports

- 45 Towards evidence based emergency medicine: Best BETs from the Manchester Royal Infirmary *Edited by S D Carley*
- 45 Use of Heliox in the management of acute exacerbation of COPD *D Kumar, R K Saksena*
- 48 Is CT effective in cases of upper oesophageal fish bone ingestion? *D Das, G May*
- 49 Does plain radiography predict pneumothorax size? *G Sudwatts, D Foler*
- 50 Is defibrillation effective in accidental severe hypothermia in adults? *J Clift, L Munro-Davies*

Prehospital care

- 52  The optimum reperfusion pathway for ST elevation acute myocardial infarction: development of a decision framework *J Kendall*
- 57  Cuffed endotracheal tube use in paediatric prehospital intubation: challenging the doctrine? *R S Clements, A G Steel, A T Bates, R Mackenzie*
- 59  The experience of Teesside helicopter emergency services: doctors do not prolong prehospital on-scene times *P D Dissmann, S Le Clerc*

Emergency casebook

- 63 Case of the month: Transient global amnesia caused by painless aortic dissection

K Mondon, C Blechet, A Gochard, D Elaroussi, F Fetissof, B De Toffol, A Autret, C Hommet

- 64 Images in emergency medicine: Calcified cervical disc in a three year old *J Acheson, P J Sell, A Rickett*
- 65 Emergency casebook abstracts
- An unusual cause of chest pain: foreign body in the oesophagus *N Koyuncu, S Yilmaz, S Soysal*
- Fractitious hyperamylasuria by a nurse: symptom of Munchausen's syndrome *M J Nasser, S H Israelit, M Muhammad*
- "Hitting the nail on the head" *A Fries, I Higginson*

Brugada-like electrocardiographic changes induced by fever *M Unlu, F Bengi, B Amasyali*

Back pain as the presenting symptom of generalised tetanus *J Simpson, A Inglis, M W G Gordon*

Bilateral posterior dislocation of the crystalline lens after a head injury sustained during a seizure *S Izadi, R M K Stewart, S Jain*

- 66 Images in emergency medicine: Acute laryngeal spasm *A S Kashyap, K V Padmaprakash, S Kashyap, K P Anand*

PostScript

- 67 Letters
- 70 Sophia