

Dernière page

Wonca Journal Watch

Synopses of articles from the medical literature relevant to family doctors, extracted from family medicine, general and specialist journals.

Clinical assessment superior to a blood test for diagnosing LVF

The researchers concluded: "The evaluation of clinical information is at least as effective as NT-proBNP testing in ruling out left ventricular systolic dysfunction in family practice patients at risk. If these results are confirmed in larger cohorts and in different samples, family physicians should be encouraged to rely on the diagnostic power of the clinical information from their patients."

- Koschack J, Scherer M, Lüers C, Kochen MM, Wetzel D, et al. Natriuretic peptide vs clinical information for diagnosis of left ventricular systolic dysfunction in primary care. *BMC Fam Pract.* 2008;9:14. Available from: <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2296/9/14>.

Community physicians' strategies for patients with medically unexplained symptoms

The researchers concluded: "Physicians used some strategies recommended in the medical literature and others not recommended. The ability to effectively implement certain strategies may depend on having a

long-term relationship with a patient and a health care environment that permits extensive patient-physician interaction."

- Anderson M, Hartz A, Nordin T, et al. Community physicians' strategies for patients with medically unexplained symptoms. *Fam Med.* 2008;40(2):111-8. Available from: <http://www.stfm.org/fmhub/fm2008/February/Peter119.pdf>.

Telling smokers their lung age

The researchers concluded: "Telling smokers their lung age significantly improves the likelihood of them quitting smoking, but the mechanism by which this intervention achieves its effect is unclear."

- Parkes G, Greenhalgh T, Griffin M, Dent R. Effect on smoking quit rate of telling patients their lung age: the Step2quit randomised controlled trial. *BMJ.* 2008 Mar 15;336(7644):567-8. Available from: <http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/336/7644/598>.

Effects of reducing television viewing and computer use on BMI in children

The authors concluded: "Reducing television viewing and computer use may have an important role in preventing obesity and in lowering BMI in young children, and these changes may be related more to changes in energy intake than to changes in physical activity."

- Epstein LH, Roemmich JN, Robinson JL, Paluch RA, Winiewicz DD, et al. A randomized trial of the effects of reducing television viewing and computer use on body mass index in young children. *Arch Pediatr*

Adolesc Med. 2008 Mar;162(3):239-45. Available from: <http://archpedi.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/full/162/3/239>.

Wonca clinical reviews

Outstanding review articles on topics relevant to family medicine derived after scanning over 190 family medicine, general and specialist journals.

The art of sleep

- Culpepper L, Doghramji P, Kornstein S, Roth T. The art of sleep: Recognizing and treating insomnia in primary care practice. Supplement to *The Journal of Family Practice*, April 2008. Available from: http://www.jfponline.com/uploadedFiles/Journal_Site_Files/Journal_of_Family_Practice/supplement_archive/SupplJFP_sleep.pdf.

Dental infections

- Nguyen DH, Martin JT. Common dental infections in the primary care setting. *Am Fam Physician* 2008;77(6):797-802.

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