CLINICAL MEDICINE

formation me Royal College of Physicians of Condon

. . .

- 5 Chasing ideas: clinical research
 in the NHS
 6 Tsunami
 Peter Watkins
- 7 Audit, assessment or performance management?
 Mike Pearson and Jane Ingham

CME SECTION

12 Anticipating, preventing and investigating medication errors

RE Ferner and J Coleman

- 16 Adjusting therapeutic dosage regimens to optimise the balance of benefit to harm Jeffrey K Aronson
- 19 Adverse drug interactions John Feely and Michael Barry
- 23 Anticipating, investigating and managing the adverse effects of drugs Munir Pirmohamed
- 26 Rational prescribing: the principles of drug selection and assessment of efficacy Derek G Waller
- 29 Self-assessment questionnaire 31 Answers to CME INFECTION PROFESSIONAL ISSUES 33 Over-regulation of clinical research: a threat to public health Charles Warlow 39 Academic clinical research in the new regulatory environment Brian Gennery 42 Research networks for stroke rehabilitation: opportunities and barriers Anne Forster and John Young 47 The RCP Information Laboratory (iLab): breaking the cycle of poor data guality Giles P Croft and John G Williams
- 50 Implications of the new GP contract Rodger Charlton

continued

the answers NOW ONLINE for ROP Fellows and Collectare Member

ORIGINAL PAPERS

55 Prevalence of primary hyperaldosteronism assessed by aldosterone/renin ratio and spironolactone testing Sue Hood, John Cannon, Roger Foo and Morris Brown

TREATMENT IN ART

61 Three Oncologists by Ken Currie Alan Emery

COLLEGE LECTURES

62 Sex is dangerous Michael Adler

REVIEWS

69 Drug misuse: a review of treatments Clare Gerada

CONFERENCE REPORTS

75 Nutrition - who cares? Penny Neild

Editor Peter Watkins MD FRCP

Editor Emeritus Robert Mahler MB FRCP

Assistant Editor Diana M Beaven

Production Editor/ Administrator Clare Marks Clinicalmedicine@rcplondon.ac.uk

Book reviews Andrew Lamb Andrew.Lamb@rcplondon.ac.uk

SAQ Editors Jonathan Fox MD FRCP David Perkin FRCP John Scadding MD FRCP J Allister Vale MD FRCP

Design & layout Suzanne Fuzzey

Subscriptions Heather Drane Heather.Drane@rcplondon.ac.uk Enquiries to: Publications Department, Royal College of Physicians, 11 St Andrews Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4LE Tel: (020) 7935 1174 Fax: (020) 7486 5425 www.rcpiondon.ac.uk

Instructions to authors Are available on the College website and on the inside back cover of this issue.

Advertising enquiries to: Katy Eggleton TG Scott Healthcare Tel: +44 (0)20 7878 2344 Email: katy@mcmslondon.co.uk

Subscription rates for 2005: The Journal is published bi-monthly, ie six issues per year. Annual subscription for UK: £120.00. Other countries: £145.00. Claims for non-receipt must be made within 90 days of publication.

- 77 BOOK REVIEWS
- 80 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CONVERSATIONS WITH CHARLES

85 Cannabis - the right decision but the wrong way to go about it?

Clinical Medicine online A full text version of this journal is available free online to Fellows and Collegiate Members when they log on to the private area of the College website www.rcplondon.ac.uk Subscribers will need to register with Catchword by visiting www.catchword.com to activate their online access.

A full text version of this journal is also available electronically to institutions from Ovid Technologies.

Further details at www.ovid.com

Disclaimer

All articles and other materials published by CLINICAL MEDICINE reflect the agreed opinions of their authors and should not be taken to represent the policy of the Royal College of Physicians unless this is specifically stated.

Printed in the United Kingdom by The Lavenham Press Ltd, Suffolk.

© Clinical Medicine 2005

ISSN 1470-2118