



October 2019 Vol. 112 No. 9

COMMENTARY

WORLD PATIENT SAFETY DAY..... P997

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EDITORIALS

PSYCHIATRY IN IRELAND: A LOT DONE, MORE TO DO.....P998

In his editorial Brendan Kelly provides some intriguing statistics. In Ireland the numbers dying from suicide are falling. There were 552 cases in 2009, 425 cases in 2015, and the preliminary data for 2017 indicates a further decrease to 392 cases. This 29% positive change has taken place despite the population growth. The author points out that the trend is underpinned by a number of initiatives including the 'National Clinical programme for the Assessment and Management of Patients Presenting to the Emergency Department following Self-Harm.

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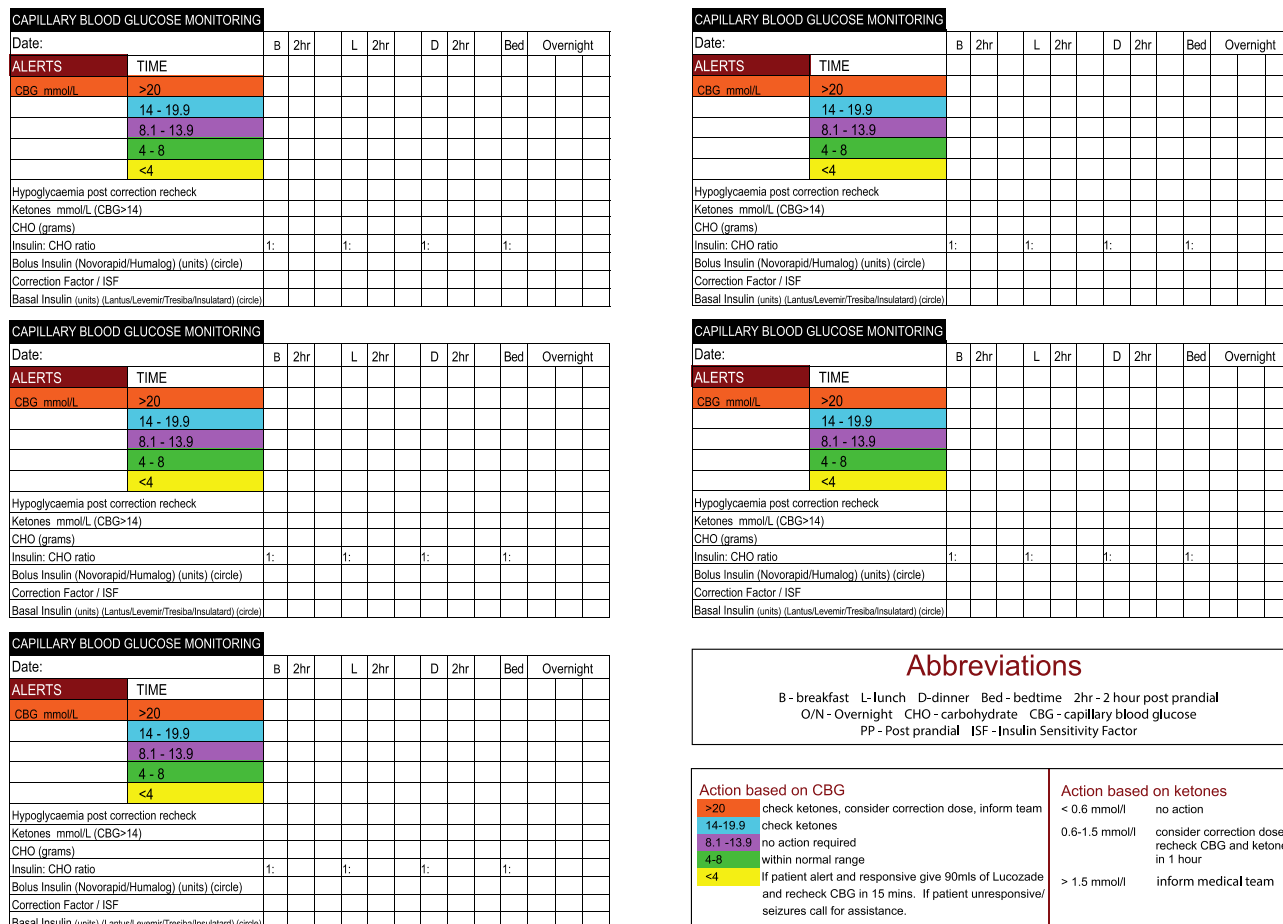
ORIGINAL PAPERS

DEVELOPMENT OF AN INSULIN-PRESCRIBING CHART FOR PAEDIATRIC DIABETES.....P999

Finn et al describe the design and clinical assessment of a new insulin-prescribing tool. It was implemented in 2016 and re-audited in 2017. There was less confusion 28%-v-50%, and the ALERT system helped in the standardization of hypo/hyperglycaemia management.

[\[Read Article\]](#)

Figure 1b: Inner pages of new specific insulin prescribing chart including quasi graph



CANNABIS USE AND ASSOCIATED HEALTH PROBLEMS – WHAT’S THE HARM?P1000

SMYTH ET AL ADDRESSED THE CHANGING PATTERNS IN CANNABIS USE. DATA FROM 2 NATIONAL SURVEYS AND 3 TREATMENT DATABASES DEMONSTRATE AN INCREASED USE OF CANNABIS AMONG ADOLESCENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS, 1.1% (2011) TO 3.6% (2015). BETWEEN 2008–2016, THE CANNABIS RELATED ADMISSIONS TO GENERAL AND PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS ROSE BY 90% AND 185% RESPECTIVELY.

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Table 1. Measures of cannabis use, risk perception and rates of cannabis related harms among Irish youth from 2003 to 2017

	'03	'04	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11	'12	'13	14	15	16	17	% change '08 to '16
Past month use by 15 to 34yo (%)	4.3				4.3				4.5				8.1			
Past month use by 16yo (%)	17				10				7				10			
Perceiving regular cannabis use as low risk (%)	19.8				18.5				10.1				19.5			
Prevalence cannabis dependence in 15-34yo (%)									1.1				3.6			
Psychiatric admissions by 18-34yo/100,000						6.5	7.1	7.6	6.7	12.7	14.8	14.3	17.3	18.5	17.1	+185%
General Hospital Admissions by 15-34yo/100,000			8.9	10.7	12.1	15.3	16.6	18.5	17.8	17.2	24.6	24.5	23.6	29.1	30.1	+90%
Treated CUD*/100,000 for under 18yo		114	109	89	97	121	157	188	171	200	198	209	190	170		+40%
Treated CUD*/100,000 for 18-34yo		55	58	63	48	57	80	107	125	131	155	170	177	153		+168%

* CUD = Cannabis Use Disorder

HOW MUCH GREATER IS OBSTETRIC INTERVENTION IN WOMEN WITH MEDICAL DISORDERS IN PREGNANCY WHEN COMPARED TO THE GENERAL POPULATION?.....P1001

KEANE ET AL HAVE COMPARED THE OBSTETRIC AND PERINATAL OUTCOMES BETWEEN WOMEN WITH MEDICAL PROBLEMS AND THE NORMAL OBSTETRIC POPULATION. PRETERM BIRTH, INDUCTION OF LABOUR, AND CAESAREAN SECTION RATES WERE HIGHER IN MOTHERS WITH MEDICAL PROBLEMS.

[\[READ ARTICLE\]](#)

Table 2: Comparisons between Medical clinic and general obstetric population

	Medical clinic	General hospital population	p-value
Maternal age greater than 40 years	103 (5.5%)	544 (6.3%)	0.17 NS
Parity			
Para 0	767 (41%)	3372 (39 %)	0.13 NS
Para 1	584 (31%)	3022 (35 %)	0.002
Para 2-4	474 (25%)	2120 (25 %)	0.48 NS
Para ≥5	48 (2.6%)	118 (1.4 %)	<0.001
Delivery before 34 weeks	82 (4.4%)	189 (2.2%)	<0.001
Induction of labour	761 (41 %)	2664 (31 %)	<0.001
SVD	964 (51.5%)	4920 (57%)	<0.001
Operative vaginal delivery	232 (12.4%)	1252 (14.5%)	0.02
Overall CS rate	664 (35%)	2479 (28.7%)	0.001
Elective CS	334 (17.8%)	1425 (16.5%)	0.18 NS
Babies born weighing less than 1500 grams	35 (1.9%)	120 (1.3%)	0.09 NS
Babies admitted to SCBU	148 (7.9%)	NA	

THE PREVALENCE AND MANAGEMENT OF METABOLIC ACIDOSIS OF CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE.....P1002

AHMED ET AL REPORT ON THE FREQUENCY OF METABOLIC ACIDOSIS-CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE (MA-CKD) IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE (CKD). IN A COHORT OF 144 CKD CASES THERE WERE 44 (34%) PATIENTS WITH MA-CKD. ALTHOUGH ORAL SODIUM BICARBONATE (OSB) IS ADVISED IN MA-CKD, ONLY 7 PATIENTS WERE ON THIS MEDICATION. THE AUTHORS URGE A GREATER AWARENESS OF THE BENEFITS OF TREATING MA-CKD WITH OSB.

[\[Read Article\]](#)

Table 1: Summary of Results

Males, n (%)	87 (59%)
Females, n (%)	60 (41%)
Serum bicarbonate (mmol/L) ¹	23±3
Serum bicarbonate less than 22mmol/L, n (%)	44 (34%)
Patients on oral sodium bicarbonate, n (%)	7 (16%)
Serum bicarbonate at initiation of OSB (mmol/L) ¹	18.3±1
Serum bicarbonate in dietary input only group (mmol/L) ¹	19.4±1.4
Serum Potassium (mmol/L) ¹	4.8±0.6
Serum Calcium (mmol/L) ¹	2.29±0.15

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO NON-EXCLUSIVE BREASTFEEDING IN PRIMIGRAVID MOTHERSP1003

PANAVIENE ET AL REPORT THAT AMONG 569 MOTHERS, 278 WERE EXCLUSIVELY BREASTFEEDING AT HOSPITAL DISCHARGE. THE ADVERSE FACTORS IDENTIFIED WERE HIGHER BODY MASS INDEX, UNEMPLOYMENT, ASIAN BACKGROUND, GESTATIONAL DIABETES, BIRTHWEIGHT <2.5KG, AND HYPERNATRAEMIA.

[\[Read Article\]](#)

Table 1: Demographics and mode of delivery in mothers intending and not intending to breast feed.

	Intention to Breast Feed n=416	No Intention to Breast Feed n= 153	p
Maternal Age (years)	31 ± 6	28 ± 7	<0.01
Maternal weight (Kg)	70 ± 14	71 ± 16	0.12
Maternal BMI			
< 18	2 (1)	2 (1)	
18-25	264 (63)	86 (56)	0.33
25 - 30	107 (26)	48 (32)	
> 30	43 (10)	17 (11)	
Gestation (weeks)	39.4 ± 1.2	39.5 ± 1.3	
Birthweight (grams)	3429 ± 460	3403 ± 522	0.57
Employed	365 (88%)	114 (75%)	<0.01
Delivery Method			
<i>Spontaneous Vaginal</i>	151 (36)	58 (38)	0.71
<i>Instrumental Vaginal</i>	143 (34)	47 (30)	
<i>Cesarean Delivery</i>	122 (29)	48 (32)	

Values are presented as mean ± SD or count (%).

A TEMPORAL COMPARATIVE STUDY OF WOMEN'S RUGBY INJURIES PRESENTING TO AN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTP1004

GILMARTIN AND RYAN DESCRIBE THE CHANGING PATTERN OF WOMEN'S RUGBY INJURIES. BETWEEN JUNE'07/JUNE'08 AND JUNE'17/JUNE'18 THE NUMBER OF ATTENDANCES INCREASED FROM 42 TO 144. THE PROPORTION RELATED TO RUGBY UNION ROSE FROM 33.3% TO 72.9%. THE 2 MAIN CATEGORIES OF INJURY WERE SOFT TISSUE AND FRACTURES. CONCUSSION RATES ROSE 2.4% TO 10%.

[\[Read Article\]](#)

Table 3. Injuries sustained

Injuries	2007/08(n=42)	2017/18(n=144)	P Value
Soft tissue	52.4%(22)	40.3%(58)	0.17
Fracture	30.0%(13)	29.9%(43)	0.99
Wounds	4.8%(2)	6.3%(9)	0.72
Concussion	2.4%(1)	10.4%(15)	0.11
Dislocation	0.0%(0)	2.8%(4)	0.27
Other	4.8%(2)	6.3%(9)	0.72
No diagnosis/did not wait	4.8%(2)	4.9%(7)	0.99

OCCASIONAL PIECES

THE DUBLIN HOSPITALS RUGBY CUP – THE OLDEST TROPHY IN WORLD RUGBY.....P1005

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RESEARCH CORRESPONDENCE

CHANGING TRENDS IN LIFE EXPECTANCY IN INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY OVER TIME....P1006

[\[Read Article\]](#)

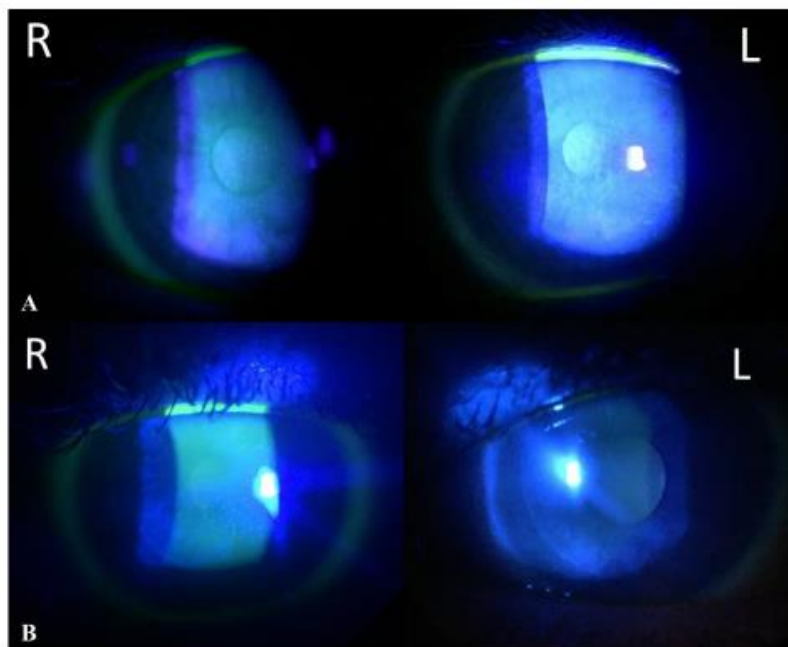
CASE REPORTS

MEASLES AND EYE COMPLICATIONSP1007

O'MAHONY ET AL DESCRIBE A CASE OF BILATERAL OCULAR KERATITIS IN A 37 YEAR OLD MALE WITH MEASLES. THE PRESENTING SYMPTOMS WERE FEVER, HEADACHE, LETHARGY, REDUCED VISION AND A RASH. THE OPHTHALMOLOGY DIAGNOSIS WAS MADE ON SLIT LAMP EXAM. HIS VISION RECOVERED FOLLOWING TOPICAL DEXAMETHASONE AND SODIUM HYALURONATE TO BOTH EYES.

[\[Read Article\]](#)

Figure 1(A): Evidence of bilateral keratitis at presentation following fluorescein staining. Lid and meibomian glands were normal in appearance. Intraocular pressures were within normal range and there was no evidence of anterior chamber cells or flare. Dilated fundal examination was unremarkable. (B): First outpatient clinic review following two weeks of treatment showing marked improvement.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NEAR PEER TEACHING IN A PAEDIATRIC HEALTHCARE SETTINGP1008

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MAJOR ONCOLOGICAL SURGERY (RADICAL CYSTECTOMY) IN OCTOGENARIANS- IS IT SAFE?
.....P1009

[\[Read Article\]](#)

AN INTEGRATED VACCINE CLINIC; A NOVEL MODEL OF CARE TO IMPROVE VACCINE UPTAKE IN
AT-RISK PATIENT GROUPSP1010

[\[Read Article\]](#)

FLU FLYING IN AUGUST.....P1011

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OBITUARIES

OBITUARY OF DR JOHN (SEÁN) D. CARROLLP1012

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CONTINUAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Please take our quiz (link below), at the Irish Medical Organisation
to earn extra CPD/CME points.

[CPD QUIZ](#)