In This Issue of JAMA

Research

Red Blood Cell Storage and Multiple Organ Dysfunction

Increased storage time of red blood cells may impair their oxygen delivery or adversely affect immune, endothelial, and hemostatic function. Spinella and colleagues randomized 1538 critically ill children and found that the use of fresh red blood cells, compared with standard-issue red blood cells, did not reduce the incidence of new or progressive multiple organ dysfunction syndrome. In an Editorial, McQuilten and Cooper discuss the safety of international red blood cell transfusion practice for critically ill children.

A Genetic Cause of Amyloid Cardiomyopathy

Hereditary transthyretin amyloid cardiomyopathy associated with the TTR V122I genetic variant is primarily found in individuals of African ancestry. Damrauer and colleagues conducted cross-sectional and case-control studies of 3724 and 2307 individuals of, respectively, African and Hispanic/Latino ancestry and found that the TTR V122I genetic variant was significantly associated with heart failure.

Fertility Treatment and Cancer Risk in Children

Fertility treatment may increase the risk of cancer in children by mechanisms associated with fertility drugs or assisted reproductive technology. Hargreave and colleagues conducted a retrospective cohort study of 1,085,172 children born in Denmark and found an increased risk of childhood cancer associated with the use of frozen embryo transfer but not with other fertility treatments.

Opinion

Viewpoint

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136 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS PUBLICATION
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Clinical Review & Education

RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT
Screening for Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm

Risk factors for abdominal aortic aneurysm include older age, male sex, and smoking. The US Preventive Services Task Force recommends 1-time screening for abdominal aortic aneurysm with ultrasonography in men aged 65 to 75 years who have ever smoked.

Related Article
JAMA Patient Page 2256
Author Audio Interview jama.com CME jamanetwork.com/learning

EVIDENCE REPORT
Outcomes of Screening for Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm

Abdominal aortic aneurysms (AAAs) are often asymptomatic, with slow expansion until possible rupture. Guirguis-Blake and colleagues reviewed 50 studies with 323,279 participants and found that 1-time AAA screening in men aged 65 years or older was associated with decreased AAA-related mortality and rupture rates but was not associated with all-cause mortality.

Related Article
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CLINICAL UPDATE
Clinical Management of Constipation

Causes of constipation include motor disorders of the colon, defecation disorders, and adverse events associated with the use of drugs. This JAMA Insights article by Wald reviews treatment options for individuals with chronic idiopathic constipation, irritable bowel syndrome with constipation, and opioid-induced constipation.

Related Article
Opioid-Induced Constipation

In this JAMA Clinical Guidelines Synopsis of a 2018 guideline developed by the American Gastroenterological Association, Rao and colleagues discuss the medical management of opioid-induced constipation.

Related Article

Online @ jama.com

Editor’s Audio Summary
Howard Bauchner, MD, summarizes and comments on this week’s issue.

Visual Abstract
“Effect of Fresh vs Standard-issue Red Blood Cell Transfusions on Multiple Organ Dysfunction Syndrome in Critically Ill Pediatric Patients: A Randomized Clinical Trial”

Audio
The Medical and Political Response to the 2017 Christchurch Mosque Mass Shooting

Author Audio Interview
Pascale Carayon, PhD, author of “Improving the System to Support Clinical Well-being and Provide Better Patient Care”

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