

JAMA's mission is education: To inform its readers of progress in clinical medicine, pertinent research, and landmark evolutions in other areas as they form an interface with medicine. It is a forum for open and responsible discussion. In consonance with this concept, all articles published, including editorials, letters to the editor, and book reviews, are signed (or authorship is otherwise indicated clearly). These represent the opinions of the authors and do not reflect the official policy of the American Medical Association or the institution with which the author is affiliated, unless this is clearly specified.

PUBLICATION STAFF

Editor: William R. Barclay, MD
Deputy Editor: M. Therese Southgate, MD
Editor Emeritus: Hugh H. Hussey, MD
Executive Editor: Robert W. Mayo
Senior Editors: John D. Archer, MD, Zenonas Danilevicius, MD, Samuel Vaisrub, MD
Contributing Editors: Lester S. King, MD, Henry T. Ricketts, MD, George X. Trimble, MD
Administrative Assistant to the Editor: Marianne H. Pollock
Foreign Editions: Senior Editor in charge: Zenonas Danilevicius, MD
Medical News—Editor: Jaan Kangilaski; **Associate Editors:** Marion E. Gold, Phil Gunby, Gail McBride, Paul Sampson; Robert Weltman (Washington, DC); **Editorial Coordinator:** Michelle F. Preston; **Secretary:** Madora Bond
Editorial Processing Manager: Norman D. Richey
Production Manager: Marlene M. Hinsch
Assistant Editorial Processing Manager: Dorothy K. Deering
Reprints and Special Projects: Bonnie M. Van Clevon
Manuscript Quality Review: Diane Unger
Production Supervisors: Julia Bero (Layout), Thomas J. Handrigan (Illustrations), Marlene M. Hinsch (Editorial), John R. Sayban (Advertising)
Copy Editing: Aldona J. Zailkas (Supervisor), Nora S. Brizgys, Wilma G. Fast, Nancy L. Oren, Eleanor Sukackas
Proofreading: Lorraine L. Kruse (Supervisor), Verna Coffman, Helen Grzeskiewicz, Madonna Niles, Elizabeth Petrikenas, Dorothy Troy, Dorothy Waier
Selected Abstracts and International Comments: Sandra Williamson (Editorial Coordinator), Mary Cannon, Jeri England, Lucille Souci
Art and Senior Production Assistants: Betty Frigerio, Shirley Latronica, Jo Anne Weiskopf
Production Assistants: Anna Goins, Lucille Kuznicki
Editorial Assistants: Jeanette Almada, Jessie Beauvoir, Karen Branham, Marsha Meyer, Marilyn Moroney, Mary Oleszczak, Mary Paino, Ethel Pinkston, Jean Ellen Rawn, Susan Routhier, Hilda L. Silve, Elaine Starks, Merry F. Uchida, Viola A. Wade
Indexing: Phyllis H. McLaren (Supervisor), Jane P. Mauldin, Helen F. Topel

THE JOURNAL is published weekly by the American Medical Association, 535 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, IL 60610. Phone 751-6000 (Area Code 312). Cable address "Medic" Chicago.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE—The subscription price per year for members of the AMA is \$2, included in the annual membership dues. The subscription price per year for nonmembers is \$30 in the United States and US possessions; \$50 in all other countries, payable in advance. Price to medical students, interns, and residents, \$10 in the United States and US possessions.

Second-class postage paid at Chicago and additional mailing office. Address all subscription communications to Circulation Department.

Copyright © 1976 by the American Medical Association



MEDICAL NEWS 2463

REFERENCE DIRECTORIES

US Meetings 2482
 Previous Listings: Foreign Meetings, May 10; Organizations, April 19; State Associations, May 24; Exams and Licensure, May 24; AMA Officials, April 19 (p 1769)

JAMA 75 YEARS AGO 2509

INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS May 3, 1976, p 1930
 2475

What are the Priorities? W. T. Jarvis, PhD, Loma Linda, Calif . . . **Re: Child Abuse** C. A. Gross, RN, MSN, R. C. Gross, MD, San Francisco, M. P. Biber, MD, Boston . . . **Morbid Obesity** A. Boba, MD, Mt Vernon, Ill . . . **Group Therapy** S. Milstone, MD, San Francisco

Vasculitis in Maturity-Onset Diabetes Mellitus 2495
 H. B. Barner, MD, St Louis

Coxsackievirus and Adenovirus Infection 2496
 J. J. Rahal, MD; S. J. Millian, PhD;
 E. R. Noriega, MD, New York

Clinical Spectrum of Pseudomembranous Colitis 2502
 R. C. Cammerer, MD; D. L. Anderson, MD;
 H. W. Boyce, Jr, MD, Washington, DC;
 G. E. Burdick, MD, San Francisco

Secundum Atrial Septal Defect 2506
 T. D. King, MD; S. L. Thompson, RN; C. Steiner, MD;
 N. L. Mills, MD, New Orleans

Rheumatoid Arthritis With Rheumatoid Heart Disease and Granulomatous Aortitis 2510
 K. A. Reimer, MD, PhD; R. F. Rodgers, MD;
 R. Oyasu, MD, Chicago

Early Debridement in Pit Viper Bites 2513
 T. G. Glass, Jr, MD, San Antonio, Tex

Tubulointerstitial and Glomerular Nephritis Associated With Rifampin 2517
 P. A. Gabow, MD; J. W. Lacher, MD; T. A. Neff, MD, Chicago

Esophageal Carcinoma Metastatic to the Patella 2519
 M. E. Ashby, MD, N. Dappen, MD, Los Angeles

Aortoduodenal Fistula Secondary to Metastatic Carcinoma 2520
 S. R. Geary, MD, E. Z. Walworth, MD, Hanover, NH

Purpura on the Rocks—With a Twist 2521
 R. R. Siroty, MD, Dover, NJ

Pericardium Secondary to a Fistula 2522
 C. Pfaff, MD; T. B. Hunter, MD; M. E. Silverstein, MD;
 I. M. Freundlich, MD, Tucson, Ariz

The Vertebral Venous System 2524

Minimal Brain Dysfunction: Toward an Understanding Between School and Physician 2524

CONTENTS—Continued

CLINICAL CARDIOLOGY

- How to Avoid Complications of Potent Diuretics**2526
R. H. Maffly, MD, Palo Alto, Calif

TOWARD OPTIMAL LABORATORY USE

- Postpartum Assessment of Maternal-Fetal Incompatibility**2530
A. Lupovitch, MD, O. J. Centeno, MD, Detroit

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS2535

Standby Physician Skilled in Newborn Resuscitation Essential at Cesarean Section
H. D. Riley, Jr, MD, Oklahoma City, C. J. Lund, MD, Minneapolis . . . **Excessive Vaginal Secretion in Young Woman** H. C. Hesseltine, MD, Chicago . . . **Can Young Woman With Vaginal or Cervical Adenosis Take Oral Contraceptives?** R. W. Kistner, MD, Brookline, Mass . . . **Screening Guidelines and Treatment of Toxic Lead Level Exposure** C. Zenz, MD, Milwaukee

INTERNATIONAL COMMENTS2537

THE BOOK FORUM2541

Operating on the Mind (Gaylin, Meister, Neville, eds) Reviewed by W. D. Weitzel, MD, Lexington, Ky . . . **Microneurosurgery** (Handa, ed) Reviewed by O. Sugar, MD, PhD, Chicago . . . **The Physiology of Bone** (Vaughan) Reviewed by R. R. Cooper, MD, Iowa City, Ia . . . **How to Live to Be 100** (Benet) Reviewed by M. C. Meehan, MD, Chicago . . . **In Brief** . . . **Selected New Books**

OBITUARIES2544

SELECTED ABSTRACTS2550

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING2556

INDEX TO ADVERTISERS2566

CORRECTIONS

By-line Incomplete2476

Late Syphilis2476

Incorrect Dose2476

The Cover

The Russell's Viper (cover), a snake native to India and the countries of Southeast Asia, is respected and feared with justification. It is one of the five venomous, front-fanged land snakes of that area that are considered to be of serious medical importance.

Of the four poisonous snakes native to the United States—the rattlesnake, water moccasin, copperhead, and coral snake—the rattlesnake is responsible for most snakebites. There are 30-some varieties of rattlesnakes found from Canada to South America; the two largest—the eastern diamondback and the western diamondback—are indigenous to the Southern United States.

To the potential snakebite victim, the most important identifying characteristic of the rattlesnake is the boney, interlocking but loosely connected segments on the snake's tail. Because many snakes, including nonpoisonous ones, have a habit of vibrating the tip of the tail when disturbed, the noise made is not as important in identification as actual observation of the rattle structure, which can usually be done from a safe distance. All rattlesnakes also have (1) a heat-sensitive pit, located between the eye and the nostril, on each side of their heads, which aids the snakes in locating the warm-blooded prey that comprise their diets, and (2) fangs for injecting their victims with venom.

Prior to the discovery of the active components of various venoms and the subsequent development of antivenins, many myths about snakes existed. Fear of all snakes was reinforced when a mid-19th century US authority on snakes stated that snakebites were always fatal. Today it is known that the majority of snakes are nonpoisonous and harmless.

Although the bite of a poisonous snake may have serious consequences if treatment is delayed or improper, very few persons have died of snakebites in recent years. For a discussion on the treatment of pit viper bites, see the article on p 2513. (Photograph © H. Armstrong Roberts)—**BONNIE VAN CLEVEN**

EDITORIAL BOARD

Charles D. Aring, MD
Cincinnati

William B. Bean, MD
Galveston, Tex

Leonard B. Berman, MD
Orange, Calif

Charles A. Berry, MD
Houston

William H. Crosby, MD
La Jolla, Calif

George E. Ehrlich, MD
Philadelphia

Heinz F. Eichenwald, MD
Dallas

George L. Engel, MD
Rochester, NY

Alvan R. Feinstein, MD
New Haven, Conn

Benjamin Felson, MD
Cincinnati

Emil J. Freireich, MD
Houston

Bruce Gilliland, MD
Seattle

Milton M. Howell, MD
Hana on Maui, Hawaii

Irving H. Leopold, MD
Irvine, Calif

Jack Love, MD
Santa Barbara, Calif

George D. Lundberg, MD
Los Angeles

Don Harper Mills, MD, JD
Los Angeles

Martin L. Nusynowitz, MD
El Paso, Tex

Eddy D. Palmer, MD
Hackettstown, NJ

Morton I. Rapoport, MD
Baltimore, Md

Robert M. Senior, MD
St Louis

J. Graham Smith, Jr, MD
Augusta, Georgia

Raymond L. Teplitz, MD
Duarte, Calif

James F. Toole, MD
Winston-Salem, NC

Ilza Veith, PhD, DMedSc
San Francisco

Executive Vice President: James H. Sammons, MD

Group Vice President, Publishing Operations: Thomas F. Hannon

Director, Publication Production Division: Norman D. Richey

Acting Fulfillment Manager: Helen R. Mazur

General Sales Manager: John T. Baker; **Eastern Sales Manager:** Robert Corcoran; **Midwest and Far West Sales Representative:** Thomas J. Carroll; **Eastern Sales Representatives:** John D. McGhie, Steve Kavalgian; **Advertising Services Manager:** Raymond Christian.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS may be made by sending old address (as it appears on your Journal) and new address with zip code number. Instructions should state whether change is temporary or permanent. Allow six weeks for changeover.

ADVERTISING PRINCIPLES—Advertisements in this issue have been reviewed to comply with the principles governing advertising in AMA scientific publications. A copy of these principles is available upon request.