

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor: George D. Lundberg, MD
Deputy Editor: Richard M. Glass, MD
Deputy Editor (West): Drummond Rennie, MD
Senior Editors: Phil B. Fontanarosa, MD, Margaret A. Winker, MD
Senior Contributing Editor: M. Therese Southgate, MD
Contributing Editors: Charles B. Clayman, MD, Helene M. Cole, MD, Thomas B. Cole, MD, MPH, David S. Cooper, MD, Harriet S. Meyer, MD, Carin M. Olson, MD, Jeanette M. Smith, MD, Jody W. Zyke, MD
Consulting Editors: Roger C. Bone, MD, Robert A. Clark, MD
Statistical Editor: Naomi Vaisrub, PhD
Associate Senior Editor: Annette Flanagan
Associate Editors: Charlene Breedlove, Roxanne K. Young
Fishbein Fellow: David H. Mark, MD, MPH
Medical News and Humanities: Phil Gunby (director)
Medical News & Perspectives: Marsha F. Goldsmith (editor); Charles Marwick, Andrew Skolnick, Joan Stephenson, PhD, Rebecca Voelker (associate editors)
Assistant Editors: Brian P. Pace, Kate Whetzel

EDITORIAL BOARD

Daniel M. Albert, MD, Madison, Wis
Kenneth A. Arndt, MD, Boston, Mass
H. David Banta, MD, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Jack D. Barchas, MD, New York, NY
Robert J. Blendon, ScD, Boston, Mass
Marjorie A. Bowman, MD, MPA, Philadelphia, Pa
Deborah J. Cook, MD, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
James E. Dalen, MD, Tucson, Ariz
Catherine D. DeAngelis, MD, Baltimore, Md
Lois DeBakey, PhD, Houston, Tex
Ronald G. Evens, MD, St Louis, Mo
William H. Foege, MD, Atlanta, Ga
Michael E. Johns, MD, Atlanta, Ga
Colin I. Johnston, MB, BS, Melbourne, Australia
Robert J. Joynt, MD, PhD, Rochester, NY
Max Just, MD, Basel, Switzerland
Donald A. B. Lindberg, MD, Bethesda, Md
William W. McLendon, MD, Chapel Hill, NC
Arno G. Motulsky, MD, Seattle, Wash
Quan Dong Nguyen, MD, Boston, Mass
Claude H. Organ, Jr, MD, Oakland, Calif
Michael Peckham, MB, MD, London, England
Edmund D. Pellegrino, MD, Washington, DC
Uwe E. Reinhardt, PhD, Princeton, NJ
Povl Riis, MD, Copenhagen, Denmark
Wolf-J. Stetter, MD, Frankfurt, Germany
Masaaki Terada, MD, Tokyo, Japan

INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Bassel Atallah, MD, JAMA—Middle East
Demetre I. Athanassiadis, MD, JAMA—Greece
Mauro Bologna, MD, JAMA—Italy
Miguel Vigeant Gomes, MD, JAMA—Portugal
Yuichiro Goto, MD, JAMA—Japan
Evin Kantemir, MD, JAMA—Turkey
A. J. Khan, SI, FRCP, JAMA—Pakistan
Jin-Pok Kim, MD, JAMA—Korea
C. R. Kumana, MBBS, JAMA—Southeast Asia
Li Chengyi, MD, JAMA—China
Maria S. P. da Silva, MD, JAMA—Brazil
Miguel Vilardell Tarres, MD, JAMA—Spanish Language
Ivan Vidmar, MD, JAMA—Slovenia
Jiří Widimský, MD, DrSc, JAMA—Czech/Slovak

JAMA (ISSN 0098-7484) is published weekly by the American Medical Association, except for 4 combined issues in months with 3 Wednesdays. Address: 515 N State St, Chicago, IL 60610.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—The subscription rate for AMA members (\$20 per year) is included in and is not deductible from the annual AMA membership dues. The annual subscription rates for nonmembers are \$130 in the United States and US possessions, \$170 in the Americas, and £113 outside the Americas. The rate for nonmember medical students and resident physicians is \$87.50 in the United States. The annual institution rates are \$175 in the United States, \$220 in the Americas, and £152 outside the Americas. Address all subscription communications to: Subscriber Services Center, American Medical Association, PO Box 10946, Chicago, IL 60610-0946. Phone: (800) 262-2350; Fax: (312) 464-5831; e-mail: ama-subs@ama-assn.org.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS—POSTMASTER, send all address changes to: JAMA, The Journal of the American Medical Association, attention: Subscription Department, PO Box 10946, Chicago, IL 60610. Notification of address change must be made at least 6 weeks in advance; include both old and new addresses and a recent mailing label. Periodicals postage paid at Chicago and at additional mailing offices. GST Registration Number: 12622 5556 RT.

JAMA® Registered in the US Patent and Trademark Office.
Copyright© 1997 by the
American Medical Association



Original Contributions

Thrombolytic Therapy for Eligible Elderly Patients With Acute Myocardial Infarction 1683
H. M. Krumholz, J. E. Murillo, J. Chen, V. Vaccarino, New Haven, Conn;
M. J. Radford, Middletown, Conn; E. F. Ellerbeck, Kansas City, Mo;
Y. Wang, Middletown, Conn

Association of Serum Lipoprotein(a) Levels and Apolipoprotein(a) Size Polymorphism With Target-Organ Damage in Arterial Hypertension 1689
L. A. Sechi, Udine, Italy; F. Kronenberg, Innsbruck, Austria;
S. De Carli, E. Falletti, L. Zingaro, C. Catena, Udine, Italy;
G. Utermann, Innsbruck, Austria; E. Bartoli, Udine, Italy

Pediatric Window-Cord Strangulations in the United States, 1981-1995 1696
R. Rauchschalbe, Washington, DC; N. C. Mann, Portland, Ore

Initial Employment Status of Resident Physicians Completing Training in 1995 1699
R. S. Miller, M. R. Dunn, Chicago, Ill; M. E. Whitcomb, Washington, DC

Special Communication

Does it Make Clinical Sense to Equate Terminally Ill Patients Who Require Life-Sustaining Interventions With Those Who Do Not? 1705
A. Alpers, B. Lo, San Francisco, Calif

Brief Report

Determination of Deltoid Fat Pad Thickness: Implications for Needle Length in Adult Immunization 1709
G. A. Poland, A. Borrud, R. M. Jacobson, K. McDermott, P. C. Wollan,
D. Brakke, J. W. Charboneau, Rochester, Minn

The Rational Clinical Examination

Can the Clinical Examination Diagnose Left-Sided Heart Failure in Adults? 1712
R. G. Badgett, San Antonio, Tex; C. R. Lucey, Washington, DC;
C. D. Mulrow, San Antonio, Tex

Commentary

Physician-Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia in the Netherlands: Lessons From the Dutch 1720
H. Hendin, New York, NY; C. Rutenfrans, The Hague, the Netherlands;
Z. Zyllicz, Rozendaal, the Netherlands

Editorial

Coronary Thrombolysis for the Elderly: Is Clinical Practice Really Lagging Behind Evidence of Benefit? 1723
J. H. Gurwitz, R. J. Goldberg, Worcester, Mass

Poetry and Medicine 1657

Since the Accident F. Skloot

The Cover 1658

Henri Matisse, *Apollo* B. P. Pace

AMA Archives Journals Abstracts 1658 f

JAMA 100 Years Ago 1658 p

The Prevention of Tuberculosis.

Medical News & Perspectives 1659

BSE Sets Agenda for Imported Gelatin . . . Baffling Skin Ailments May Originate in Psyche . . . Dermatologic Disorders Diminish Quality of Life . . . Miscellanea Medica

From the Food and Drug Administration 1664

National Food Safety Initiative . . . Reminder for Physicians Interpreting Mammograms . . . Special Precautions for Isoniazid Therapy in Minority Women

From the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 1665

Availability of Diphtheria Antitoxin Through an Investigational New Drug Protocol . . . Respiratory Diphtheria Caused by *Corynebacterium ulcerans*—Terre Haute, Indiana, 1996 . . . Update: Influenza Activity—United States and Worldwide, 1996-97 Season, and Composition of the 1997-98 Influenza Vaccine

A Piece of My Mind 1668

A Child's Pain M. J. Collins

Reference Directories

Meetings of Medical Interest: I. Meetings in the United States . . . II. International Meetings 1669

Organizations of Medical Interest January 15, 1997
State Medical Associations and Examinations and Licensure January 22/29, 1997

Readers' Guide to JAMA 1674

Resident Forum 1676

Practical Suggestions for Physicians Completing Medical Training and Entering Practice, Part 2 P. Tsang, S. S. H. Wu

JAMA Instructions for Authors 1676 a

Letters 1677

Blinding of Clinical Trials With Concurrent Economic Analysis K. Johnson; N. Freemantle, M. Drummond

Factors Contributing to Declines in Cardiac Mortality P. D. Rumm, J. D. Gunzenhauser, M. R. Krauss; M. G. M. Hunink, L. Goldman, M. C. Weinstein

Clinical Crossroads: A 65-Year-Old Man With an Inguinal Hernia J. A. Hamlin; J. B. Vander Veer, Jr; G. Wantz

Does Organic Gardening Foster Foodborne Pathogens? K. T. DiMatteo; R. V. Tauxe

The Paradox of Technology: Learning to Share Control With the Patient E. Davidson; C. A. Reyes-Ortiz; A. L. Suchman, K. Markakis, H. B. Beckman, R. Frankel

Malpractice Claims and Physicians' Communication Patterns R. Balon; G. W. Frank; W. Levinson
Fatality Associated With Combined Fluoxetine-Amitriptyline Therapy S. H. Preskorn, B. Baker

Letter From Vietnam 1726

Tobacco Use in Vietnam: Prevalence, Predictors, and the Role of the Transnational Tobacco Corporations C. N. H. Jenkins, P. X. Dai, D. H. Ngoc, H. V. Kinh, T. T. Hoang, S. Bales, S. Stewart, S. J. McPhee,

Books, Journals, New Media 1732

Mosby's Medical Surfari: A Guide to Exploring the Internet and Discovering the Top Health Care Resources (Gibbs et al, eds) Reviewed by A. J. Bridges

Fevered Lives: Tuberculosis in American Culture Since 1870 (Ott) Reviewed by B. Bates

Psychiatry (Tasman et al, eds) . . . Psychiatry: Self Assessment and Review (Taylor, Tasman) Reviewed by J. H. Kocsis

Textbook of Rheumatology (Kelley et al) Reviewed by G. Ehrlich

Advances in Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Clinical Nutrition (Cello, ed) Reviewed by G. Schnell

Journal of Health Psychology (Marks, ed) Reviewed by J. Difede, M. E. Funk

Anatomy of Nerves and Muscles (Peyronnard, Charron) Reviewed by S. W. Jacob

Books, Journals, New Media Received

Obituary 1738

Dwight Luke Wilbur, MD, MS

Obituary Listing 1738

Physician Recruitment Advertising and Announcements 1738 f

Index to Advertisers 1738 r

JAMA Journal Club Reading Assignments 1738 r



The Journal of the American Medical Association

SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION AND MULTIMEDIA STAFF

New Media: William M. Silberg (editorial director), Marty Suter (associate editor), Marla A. Hall (staff assistant)

Editorial Systems and Administration: Elaine Williams (director), Vee Bailey (electronic input specialist)

Administrative Assistant: Helga Fritz

Editorial Assistants: Patricia Joworski, Gale Saulsberry, Juliana Waiker (group supervisors); Kimberly Evans (letters coordinator); Linda Baker, Mary Cannon, Lenette Gardner, Shirley Gogins, Gwenn Gregg, Lisa Hardin, Sharon Iverson, Mary Ann Lilly, Christina Myers, Ethel Pinkston, Raul Serrato, Gloria Tate

Editorial Processing Division: Cheryl Iverson (director), Diane L. Cannon (freelance manager), Pete Johlie (assistant freelance coordinator), Paul Frank (senior copy editor/Atex specialist)

Copy Editors: Jane C. Lantz (director), Susan R. Benner (senior copy editor), Fiona M. Bruce, Bill Clements, Deborah Flapan, Susan Goeks

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION STAFF

Production and Distribution Division: Mary C. Steermann (director), Bonnie Van Cleven (manager, budgets and costs), Vanessa Hayden (director, advertising and production), Linda Knott (director, electronic production), Mary Ellen Johnston (electronic coordinator), Melanie Parenti (database assistant)

Managers: Susan Price (print production), Teresa Omiotek (proofreading), Carole Piszker (advertising), Charl Richey (color and graphics)

Proofreaders: David Antos, Daniel James, Martha Kerr, Mary Kay Tinerella

Production Associates and Operators: Karen Adams-Taylor, Joseph Amft, Gail Barrett, Karen Branham, Debbie Camp, Brenda Chandler-Haynes, La'son J. Diggs, Betty Frigerio, Mari Guizzetti, Ellen Gunderson, Mary Ann Kuranda, Sandra Lopez, Sarah Powell, Jeni Reiling, Mary Ann Schultz, Carmela Ware, JoAnne Weiskopf, Alicja Wojcik-Dunn

Production Assistants: Ruth Sprague, Jo Anne Turner

CIRCULATION AND MARKETING STAFF

Circulation Processing: Beverly Martin (director)

Circulation Development: Ann Westerbeke (director)

Licensing and Permissions: Norman Frankel (director), Kathy Gaydar (indexing), Ada Jiminez-Walker (permissions)

Reprint Coordinator: Joseph Reakash

AMA Officers

President: Daniel H. Johnson, Jr, MD*

President-Elect: Percy Wootton, MD*

Immediate Past President: Lonnie R. Bristow, MD

Secretary-Treasurer: Randolph D. Smoak, Jr, MD*

Speaker, House of Delegates: Richard F. Corlin, MD

Vice-Speaker, House of Delegates: John A. Knotte, MD

AMA Trustees

Regina M. Benjamin, MD (Young Physician); Yank D. Coble, Jr, MD; Nancy W. Dickey, MD* (Chair); Timothy T. Flaherty, MD*; Palma E. Formica, MD; Michael S. Goldrich, MD (Resident); J. Edward Hill, MD; William E. Jacott, MD; D. Ted Lewers, MD*; William H. Mahood, MD; John C. Nelson, MD; Donald J. Palmisano, MD, JD; Pamela Petersen-Crair (Student); Thomas R. Reardon, MD* (Vice-Chair); Randolph D. Smoak, Jr, MD*

*Executive Committee.

AMA EXECUTIVE STAFF

Executive Vice President: P. John Seward, MD

Deputy Executive Vice President: Kenneth E. Monroe

Group Vice President, Business and Management Services: James F. Rappel

Editor in Chief, Scientific Information and Multimedia: George D. Lundberg, MD

Vice President, Publishing: Robert L. Kennett

Publisher: Peter J. Murphy

ADVERTISING OFFICES—Eastern: 119 Cherry Hill Road, 3rd Floor, Parsippany, NJ 07054 (Representatives: Alice H. Herman, Stuart H. Williams [201-263-9191]); **Midwest/Farwest:** 515 N State St, Chicago, IL 60610 (Representative: Jeffery J. Bonistalli [312-464-2551]); **Physician Recruitment Advertising:** 312-464-2456

ADVERTISING PRINCIPLES—Advertisements in this issue have been reviewed to comply with the principles governing advertising in AMA publications. A copy of these principles is available on request. The appearance of advertising in AMA publications is not an AMA guarantee or endorsement of the product or the claims made for the product by the manufacturer.

MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION—Send manuscripts to the Editor, George D. Lundberg, MD, JAMA, 515 N State St, Chicago, IL 60610.

All articles published, including editorials, letters, and book reviews, 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.