

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF / RÉDACTEUR EN CHEF

Grant Innes, MD ginn@interchange.ubc.ca
University of British Columbia, Vancouver

SENIOR ASSOCIATE EDITOR / RÉDACTEUR ADJOINT

Garth Dickinson, MD garth@icon.co.zw
University of Ottawa, Ottawa

ASSOCIATE EDITORS / RÉDACTEURS ASSOCIÉS

Ian G. Stiell, MD, University of Ottawa, Ottawa
Jacques S. Lee, MD, University of Ottawa, Ottawa
Jim Thompson, MD, Dalhousie University, Charlottetown
Laurie J. Morrison, MD, University of Toronto, Toronto
Julie Spence, MD, University of Toronto, Toronto
John Ross, MD, Dalhousie University, Halifax
Michael J. Bullard, MD, University of Alberta, Edmonton
David J. Rhine, MD, King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Center, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Anthony S. Taylor, MD, University of Calgary, Calgary
Cheri Nijssen-Jordan, MD, University of Calgary, Calgary
Bruce Minnes, MD, King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Center, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Tim Allen, MD, Université Laval, Quebec City
Isser Dubinsky, MD, University of Toronto, Toronto
Jason R. Frank, MD, University of Toronto, Toronto
Kirk Hollohan, MD, University of British Columbia, Vancouver
Jeffrey L. Arnold, MD, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles

SECTIONS

EM ADVANCES (original research)
Ian G. Stiell, MD, Ottawa; **Jacques S. Lee, MD**, Ottawa

RURAL AND SMALL URBAN ISSUES
Jim Thompson, MD, Charlottetown

STATE OF THE ART (review articles and topical updates)
Laurie J. Morrison, MD, Toronto

CONTROVERSIES (issues and commentaries)
Julie Spence, MD, Toronto; **John Ross, MD**, Halifax

CJEM JOURNAL CLUB
Michael J. Bullard, MD, Edmonton
David J. Rhine, MD, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

PEDIATRICS
Cheri Nijssen-Jordan, MD, Calgary
Bruce Minnes, MD, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

HUMOUR AND HUMANITY
[Vacant]

INTERNATIONAL EM
Garth Dickinson, MD, Harare, Zimbabwe
Jeffrey L. Arnold, MD, Los Angeles

ACADEMICS (education and research)
Tim Allen, MD, Quebec City

ED ADMINISTRATION
Isser Dubinsky, MD, Toronto

RESIDENT ISSUES
Jason R. Frank, MD, Toronto; **Sunil Sookram, MD**, Edmonton

CASE REPORTS
Anthony S. Taylor, MD, Calgary

DIAGNOSTIC CHALLENGE
Kirk Hollohan, MD, Vancouver

MEDIA REVIEWS
Claude Topping, MD, CHA, Quebec City

MANAGING EDITOR / RÉDACTRICE ADMINISTRATIVE

Heidi Innes, BSc, BEd heidi.innes@home.com

EDITORIAL BOARD

Rob Stokes, MD, Sydney, NS; **H. Mitchell Shulman, MD**, Montreal;
Annie Gareau, MD, Vancouver; **Brian Holroyd, MD**, Edmonton



Vol. 2, No. 2, April / avril 2000

TABLE OF CONTENTS • TABLE DES MATIÈRES

| | |
|--|-----|
| IN THIS ISSUE • DANS CE NUMÉRO | 75 |
| PRESIDENT'S LETTER • LETTRE DU PRÉSIDENT | |
| Emergency department overcrowding: Does the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians have a role? <i>D. Sinclair</i> | 78 |
| Encombrements des urgences : L'Association canadienne des médecins d'urgence a-t-elle un rôle à jouer? <i>D. Sinclair</i> | 79 |
| EDITORIAL • ÉDITORIAL | |
| Preventive health in the emergency department: Is our safety net becoming too big? <i>R. Beveridge</i> | 80 |
| LETTERS • COURRIER | 81 |
| Etomidate in the ED, <i>J.E. Chirgwin</i> . | |
| DIAGNOSTIC CHALLENGE • DÉFI DIAGNOSTIQUE | |
| If it walks like appendicitis and talks like appendicitis . . . <i>K. Hollohan</i> | 82 |
| Answer <i>K. Hollohan</i> | 108 |
| EM ADVANCES • PROGRÈS DE LA MU | |
| The NARC (Nonsteroidal Anti-inflammatory in Renal Colic) Trial. Single-dose intravenous ketorolac versus titrated intravenous meperidine in acute renal colic: a randomized clinical trial <i>V.M. Wood, J.M. Christenson, G.D. Innes, M. Lesperance, R.D. McKnight</i> | 83 |
| CONTROVERSIES • CONTROVERSES | |
| Flu vaccine and the ED Administering influenza vaccine in a Canadian emergency department: Is there a role? <i>A.M. Chiasson, P. Rowe</i> . | 90 |
| ED ADMINISTRATION • ADMINISTRATION DU DU | |
| Do emergency physicians know the costs of medical care? <i>G. Innes, E. Grafstein, J. McGrogan</i> | 95 |
| COMMENTARY • COMMENTAIRE | |
| Manpower crisis in emergency medicine: Can residency programs make an impact? <i>I.P. Steiner, P.W. Yoon, B.R. Holroyd</i> | 103 |
| Prehospital triage to stroke centres: Is it a solution to the problem? <i>P.R. Verbeek, B. Schwartz</i> | 106 |

METHODOLOGY EDITORS

Riyad B. Abu-Laban, MD, Vancouver; Brian Rowe, MD, Edmonton;
Iain Macphail, MD, Vancouver; Les Vertesi, MD, Vancouver;
Gregory Mosdosy, MD, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

EDITORIAL CONSULTANTS

Greta Cummings, BScN, MEd, Edmonton;
Jeremy Etherington, MD, Vancouver;
Joe Finkler, MD, Vancouver; Michael Howlett, MD, Truro, NS

TRANSLATION

Danielle Séguin-Tétreault, MTrad

© 2000 Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians
Association canadienne des médecins d'urgence

CJEM is owned by the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians (CAEP) and published quarterly by the Canadian Medical Association (CMA). It is printed by Harmony Printing Limited, Toronto. CAEP and the CMA assume no responsibility or liability for damages arising from any error or omission, or from the use of any information or advice contained in the journal, including articles, editorials, case reports, reviews, media reviews, letters and advertisements. All editorial matter in *CJEM* represents the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of CAEP or the CMA. Publications mail registration 0344505499. ISSN 1481-8035.



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF EMERGENCY
PHYSICIANS

President / Président
Douglas Sinclair, MD, CCFP(EM), FRCPC
CAEP Web site: www.caep.ca

Editorial inquiries and correspondence: ginnes@interchange.ubc.ca.
Send address changes and requests for permission to reproduce items
in *CJEM* to: Susan Norrington, CAEP Head Office, 104-1785 Alta
Vista Dr., Ottawa ON K1G 3Y6; tel 613 523-3343; fax 613 523-0190;
cjem@caep.ca



PUBLISHER / ÉDITEUR

Canadian Medical Association / Association médicale canadienne
1867 prom. Alta Vista Dr., Ottawa ON K1G 3Y6
tel 613 731-9331 x2114; fax 613 565-2382; pubs@cma.ca

PRESIDENT / PRÉSIDENT

Hugh Scully, MD CM, MSc

DIRECTOR / DIRECTEUR, PUBLICATIONS

R. Peter Milroy

MANAGER, PUBLISHING SERVICES

GESTIONNAIRE, SERVICES DE PUBLICATION

Jill Rafuse

ASSISTANT EDITOR, PUBLISHING SERVICES

RÉDACTRICE ADJOINTE, SERVICES DE PUBLICATION

Jennifer Raiche, raichj@cma.ca

PRODUCTION MANAGER / GESTIONNAIRE DE LA PRODUCTION

Kathryn A. Freamo

PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS / ASSISTANTES À LA PRODUCTION

Nicole Barbeau, Lianne Johnsen, Carole Lalonde

ADVERTISING / PUBLICITÉ

MANAGER, JOURNAL ADVERTISING

GESTIONNAIRE, ANNONCES PUBLICITAIRES

Beverley Kirkpatrick

tel 613 731-8610 x2127; fax 613 565-7488; advertising@cma.ca

COORDINATOR, DISPLAY ADVERTISING

COORDONNATRICE DE LA PUBLICITÉ

Nancy Pope

MARKETING AND ADVERTISING SALES / MARKETING ET PUBLICITÉ

Keith Health Care Inc.

Toronto: 905 278-6700 or 800 661-5004; fax 905 278-4850
Montréal: 514 624-6979 or 877 761-0447; fax 514 624-6707

CJEM JOURNAL CLUB • CLUB DE LECTURE DU JCMU

Inhibition of platelet aggregation in unstable angina
L.D. Burkart, M.J. Bullard 109

Helical CT in the diagnosis of pulmonary embolism
R. Lee 110

PEDIATRICS • PÉDIATRIE

Infantile glaucoma presenting as a case of "red eye"
D.M. James 112

RURAL AND SMALL URBAN ISSUES

MÉDECINE RURALE ET DES PETITS CENTRES URBAINS

Rural physicians practising emergency medicine: paying the piper
P. Hutten-Czapski 115

CASE REPORTS • OBSERVATIONS

Pericardial tamponade presenting as abdominal pain in a patient
with systemic lupus erythematosus
A.E. Muñiz 117

An unusual complication of chest tube thoracostomy
H. Poncia, J.M. Ryan 121

RESIDENT ISSUES • PRÉOCCUPATIONS DES RÉSIDENTS

"Research sucks!"
G. McInnes 124

INTERNATIONAL EM • MU INTERNATIONALE

Emergency medicine in Saudi Arabia: an expatriate's perspective
D.J. Rhine 125

NEWS • NOUVELLES

Managed money: putting specialized expertise to work for you,
C. DeRuiter; Should CAEP establish an ethics committee?, *M. Pauls*;
Emergency medicine research fellowship — St. Paul's Hospital, UBC,
J. Christenson; American Board certified emergency physicians
get specialist billing in BC, *G. Innes* 129

MEDIA REVIEWS • REVUES DES MÉDIAS

Emergency Medicine: a Comprehensive Study Guide, C. Topping;
*Cline: Emergency Medicine. A Comprehensive Study Guide 4e
Companion Handbook*, J.M. Thompson. 132

SERVICE INFORMATION

81

SERVICES

114

CALENDAR • CALENDRIER

133

ADVERTISERS' INDEX • INDEX DES ANNONCEURS

133

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING • ANNONCES CLASSÉES

140

INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS • DIRECTIVES À L'INTENTION DES AUTEURS

See July 1999 issue, p. 141; voir la page 142, juillet 1999.
Also available in both English and French on CAEP's Web site:
www.caep.ca



ABOUT THE COVER

University of Alberta Hospital, Edmonton, Alta.

July 1999, 9:30pm: "I was on call and getting *killed* with consults,
when this amazing flaming light came blazing through a window in
Emerg 2. I took 20 minutes I didn't have, grabbed my camera and
snapped shots as the light changed. It was a refreshing break, and much
needed."
— Dr. Adam J. Lund, EM Resident