

CONTENTS

*Experimental Study***Does the administration of antioxidants as scavengers of reactive oxygen species in kidney transplantation really have sense?**

Kuntscher V, Treska V, Racek J, Kobr J, Trefil L, Hes O 385

The aim of the study was to evaluate the degree of ischemia reperfusion syndrome (IRS) in serious ischemic insult of a kidney transplant and to try to mitigate the production of reactive oxygen substances (ROS) and inflammatory response. Based on our results, we cannot conclude that the intravenous application of ROS scavengers in given combination and amount, administered to the recipient in the period just before transplantation, is a useful protective mechanism against kidney damage during IRS.

*Clinical Studies***A critical gap between recommended and achieved LDL-cholesterol levels. Results of statin therapy in Slovakia**

Gajdos M, Krivosikova Z, Uhliar R 388

The achievement of low density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C) target levels, as recommended by the evidence-based international guidelines, represents the crucial prerequisite for maximal cardiovascular risk reduction in patients with dyslipidemia. Statin therapy does not correspond with the current guidelines in common clinical practice. In patients with treated hypercholesterolemia the use of low doses of statins without titration seems to be the main reason of poor achieving of LDL-C target levels representing the critical values for reducing the atherosclerosis and its life-threatening complications.

Prooxidative/antioxidative homeostasis in heroin addiction and detoxification

Pereska Z, Dejanova B, Bozinovska C, Petkovska L 393

Prooxidative/antioxidative homeostasis was evaluated in heroin addicts and addicts on detoxification. Oxidative stress with a decreased antioxidant capacity was found in chronic heroin abuse. Abating heroin and introduction of detoxification methods decreased the oxidative stress.

Antibodies to *Borrelia burgdorferi* in erythema migrans patients

Trnovcova M, Bazovska S, Svecova D 399

The tests which detect *Borrelia burgdorferi* antibodies are not standardized. They have variable sensitivity and specificity and their standardization is complicated with respect to great heterogeneity of *Borrelia burgdorferi* strains circulating in individual regions of Europe.

Endothelaemia – a marker of vascular damage

Rajec J, Tisonova J, Kriska M, Kristova V, Vojtko R, Dukat A, Ambrozy E, Slyska R, Varga I 403

Our pilot study, though limited by a relatively small number of patients, proved a significant increase of endothelaemia in patients at high CV risk, which is consistent with other available data. The introduction of newer specific methods based on immunomagnetic principles may provide a wider use of endothelaemia measurement in clinical settings.

Evaluation and treatment of hip joint instability in patients with cerebral palsy

Kokavec M 406

Hip instability leading to subluxation or dislocation is a serious problem in children suffering from CP and is usually worse in severe condition. Once subluxation or dislocation occurs, muscle releases should be combined with varus and shortening osteotomy. In an acetabular insufficiency, pelvic osteotomy is necessary to obtain the stability.

*Case Reports***Vertex extradural haematoma with associated lesions – improving clinical course with sudden death**

Balik V, Sulla I 409

The authors present a case of a man who was conservatively treated due to an epidural clot at the vertex associated with intracerebral haematomas, subarachnoid haemorrhage and haemorrhage diagnosed by computed tomography (CT). Despite his neurologically stable condition with slow, but continuous improvement, after few days the patient suddenly died. Authors analyze advantages and disadvantages of conservative vs. surgical treatment of this pathological condition.

Neurocysticercosis – non-specific clinical and neuro-radiological presentation

Titlic M, Tonkic A, Jukic I, Lahman-Doric M, Kolic K, Buca A, Milas I, Dikanovic M 414

Neurocysticercosis (cysticercosis cerebri) is a rare neurological diagnosis in Croatia. It is classically divided into four types: intraparenchymal, basilar cisternal, ventricular and diffuse. Computerized tomography and magnetic resonance imaging established the diagnosis by demonstrating cysticercosis disseminated throughout the cerebral parenchyma.

*Topical Review***Chronic vitamin C deficiency increases the risk of cardiovascular diseases**

Ginter E 417

The studies on experimental animals (guinea pigs, monkeys, fishes) have confirmed the important role of ascorbic acid deficiency in the development of hypercholesterolemia and atherosclerosis, but the clinical experience is not quite uniform.

*Case Report***Anatomical study of anomalous posterior horn of lateral ventricle of brain and its clinical significance**

Srijit D, Shipra P 422

The study describes asymmetrical right cerebral hemisphere and anomalous posterior horn of the right lateral ventricle and discussed its clinical implications.

*Letter to the Editor***Approaching the obese patients in primary health care in the Czech Republic**

Cerveny R 425

Statistical results of a study monitoring the occurrence of obesity in the Czech population between 1985 and 2000 were published by the Czech Society of General Practice, in the recommended diagnostic and treatment guidelines for general practitioners under the heading "Obesity".