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*Experimental Study***Dietary intake of flavonoids and hyperoxia-induced oxidative stress related cough in guinea pigs**

Brozmanova M, Bartos V, Plank L, Plevkova J, Tatar M ..... 489

There is many evidence that inhalation of high oxygen concentration has a toxic influence on pulmonary function and structures. Hyperoxia-induced oxidative stress is well characterized in rodents and has been used as a valuable model of human respiratory distress syndrome. We have previously shown that hyperoxic exposure of guinea pigs is associated with suppression of cough reflex. The goal of this study was to determine the effects of dietary intake of antioxidant flavonoids (Flavin7, Vita Crystal Slovakia Ltd., 2 ml/kg b.w.) on hyperoxia-induced oxidative stress in lung tissue directed on cough reflex.

*Clinical Studies***Stakeholder approach in strengthening the patients' rights in the Slovak Republic**

Brazinova A, Heydelberg E, Koot J, Rusnakova V, Rusnak M ..... 495

The described project aimed to promote patients' rights in the Slovak Republic that are stipulated by law but in practice not observed fully. The project was based on a bi-lateral agreement between the Netherlands and the Slovak Republic in the framework of European Union pre-accession program and implemented in the period from January 2002 to June 2003.

**Procalcitonin, neopterin and C-reactive protein after pediatric cardiac surgery with cardiopulmonary bypass**

Skrak P, Kovacicova L, Kunovsky P ..... 501

The study describes procalcitonin, neopterin and C-reactive protein activation kinetics after surgery with cardiopulmonary bypass in children. All three markers showed higher than normal values in first two days after surgery in the absence of infection. C-reactive protein and Neopterin had age dependent kinetics.

**Helicobacter pylori infection and its relationship to plasma magnesium in hemodialysis patients**

Nasri H ..... 506

The aim of this study was to evaluate a probable association between plasma magnesium ( $Mg^{2+}$ ) and *Helicobacter pylori* infection in maintenance patients. *Helicobacter pylori* specific IgG antibody levels and plasma magnesium were measured in patients. The results of this study suggest the association of serum magnesium with the infection of *Helicobacter pylori*.  $Mg^{2+}$  acquisition by CorA is essential for *Helicobacter pylori* in vitro.

*Case Reports***Nutritional determinants of plasma homocysteine**

Krajcovicova-Kudlackova M, Blazicek P, Mislanova C, Valachovicova M, Paukova V, Spustova V ..... 510

The authors evaluated the total homocysteine (Hcy) plasma concentrations and concentrations of its nutritional determinants in three types of nutritional habits: vegetarians, normal weight non-vegetarians (general population) and overweight and obese non-vegetarians (general population with immoderate intake). A remethylation pathway of Hcy metabolism and conversion of Hcy back to methionine (requiring folic acid and vitamin B12) prevails during lower methionine intake (plant proteins or mixture of plant and animal proteins in adequate nutrition).

**Preservation injury of the small bowel graft in clinical small bowel transplantation**

Balaz P, Kudla M, Lodererova A, Oliverius M, Adamec M ..... 516

This study evaluated which part of the small bowel is more resistant to preservation injury. According to the study, there is no difference between preservation injury of the jejunal and ileal graft within 24 hours of ischemia when using HTK preservation solution.

**Dermatitis herpetiformis in siblings**

Chmurova N, Parnicka Z, Svecova D, Manova A, Simaljakova M ..... 519

Two Caucasian sisters suffered from DH. Our results confirm the known association of DH to other autoimmune disorders and its well established association the HLA-DQB1\*0201 allele. Although DH is generally not regarded as a familial disease our case report suggests its familial character.

**Histological status of the liver in relation to serum aminotransferase levels in patients with chronic hepatitis C**

Bartos V, Krkoska D, Slavik P, Lauko L, Adamkov M ... 522

The diagnosis of chronic hepatitis C is based on serological, biochemical and histological parameters. However, the correlation between the activity of liver enzymes and the degree of histomorphological damage may be very poor. It has been recognised that serum aminotransferase levels do not accurately reflect the extent of liver inflammation.

**Perinatal traumatism with gastroschisis**

Trnka J, Cingel V, Horn F, Babala J, Sykora L, Beder I .. 526

Authors analyse 11 cases of perinatal traumatism in a group of 110 patients with gastroschisis during a period of 25 years. They point out its causes and consequences. To minimize perinatal traumatism, it is necessary to conduct suitable prenatal and perinatal management. In spite of preferring Caesarean section there are no differences between vaginal and Caesarean delivery when the delivery is properly managed.

*Topical Review***Considerations on physiological mechanisms of spinal cord movement performance according to cerebral stimuli**

Nadvornik P, Cierny G, Bernadic M ..... 529

The process of communication between brain and spinal cord remains unclear. Therefore an attempt supported by spinal cord stereotaxy was made to disclose the physiological mechanisms underlying the cooperation between the brain and spine as generated by the spinal cord. Therefore two possible hypotheses were proposed by the authors.

*Ethics***Against abuse of digital photography techniques in morphology – Ethical Code of Slovak Anatomical Society**

Mraz P ..... 533

Digital graphical methods allow extensive manipulation of pictures literally beyond any limits. By such methods, it is possible to change original information obtained by morphological observation, even to fraudulently produce distorted results or forgeries. For this reason, basic rules were proposed defining what is allowed and what is not accepted during picture processing.

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