

CONTENTS

*Topical Reviews***C-reactive protein, cytokines and inflammation in cardiovascular diseases**

Bucova M, Bernadic M, Buckingham T 333
Inflammation and genetics are key factors in the development of cardiovascular diseases. Genetic polymorphisms of inflammatory biomarkers such CRP, cytokines and chemokines are discussed in this article.

Cardiac biomarkers and chronic renal diseases

Valocikova I, Kristofova B, Valocik G 341
Cardiovascular risk stratification is important in the clinical management of patients with chronic renal failure or end stage renal disease and biomarkers are increasingly used in these patients.

Spondylodiscitis

Titlic M, Josipovic-Jelic Z 345
In this paper we describe the causes of spondylodiscitis by reviewing the existing literature. The main causative organisms are staphylococci and Mycobacterium tuberculosis. The causes of spondylodiscitis are assigned to a large number of bacteria, fungi, zoonoses, which is to be taken into consideration in diagnostic treatment of patients.

*Case Reports***Gastrointestinal stromal tumors**

Sekac J, Labas P, Skultety J, Prochotska A, Durdik J, Hrbaty B 348
Gastrointestinal stromal tumors (GISTs) are relatively heterogeneous group of mesenchymal tumours, with specific histological characteristics, appearing primarily in the gastro/intestinal tract and abdominal cavity. They are known from older documents under the name leiomyomas. In the last 3 years we surgically solved 9 patients with GIST underwent surgery at our department. All cases were with very atypical process. From these patients we described 3 interesting cases are described in more details.

Lower urinary tract reconstruction following a cystectomy: experience and results in 20 patients using the „Studer“ orthotopic ileal bladder substitution

Saidi S, Ivanovski O, Petrovski D, Kuzmanoski M, Stavridis S, Banev S 353
To analyze the outcome, complications and functional results in patients undergoing bladder substitution with continent urinary pouch. Perioperative complications related to neobladder were found in 6 patients. We observed 3 patients with neobladder-unrelated complications. Late complications, functional outcome and continence were similar to other published series. We believe that Studer's orthotopic neobladder is an excellent alternative for patients undergone radical cystectomy.

Isolated extra-medullary relapse of acute leukemia following allogeneic bone marrow transplantation

Al Sabty Firas, Demeckova E, Bojtarova E, Czako B, Hrubisko M, Mistrik M 358
Isolated extramedullary relapse (IEMR) of acute leukemia (AL) after allogeneic bone marrow transplantation (BMT) is a rare occurrence. It is seen more commonly after BMT than after conventional chemotherapy (CHT) alone. We describe the natural history and response to treatment in four patients with IEMR following allogeneic BMT. The results indicate a stronger graft-versus-leukemia (GVL) effect in the marrow than in the peripheral tissues.

Paraneoplastic Cushing's syndrome as the first sign of progression of prostate cancer

Rajec J, Mego M, Sycova-Mila Z, Obertova J, Brozmanova K, Mardiak J 362
Cushing's syndrome accompanying the small cell de-differentiation of the prostatic adenocarcinoma is a relatively rare clinical entity, associated with poor overall prognosis. Despite several treatment options available, there is still no effective standard therapy for this clinical condition. Herein, we report two patients with prostate cancer presenting with clinical and laboratory features of Cushing's syndrome as the first sign of disease progression.

Leukemia in pregnancy

Al Sabty Firas, Demeckova E, Mistrik M 364
Pregnancy complicated with leukemia is rare. Validated data, out of which conclusions may be drawn regarding the management of pregnancy with leukemia are sparse. We report 5 cases of leukemia diagnosed during pregnancy with an overview of published literature.

Digitalization in Radiology – 6 years in the St. Elisabeth Oncology Institute

Valkovic L, Lehotska V, Magula J, Tothova L 367
A film-free hospital is a system, which increases the effectiveness of physicians, increases patients, comfort and spares work and finances in a long-term point of view. However, in our country, this new system brings specific problems, that were described above and their solution should be a part of transition from classic pictures to digital images.

*Clinical Study***Comparison of NSAID consumption in Slovakia, Finland and Norway**

Hudec R, Kriska M, Bozekova L, Foltan V 370
Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) belong to most frequently used drugs worldwide. NSAIDs belong to the family of drugs that represent the biggest drug risk as to the number of adverse drug reactions (ADRs), as well as to the number of deregistered drugs.

*Guidelines***Evaluation of traumatic brain injury guidelines using AGREE instrument**

Rusnak M, Mauritz W, Lecky F, Kaniansky M, Brazinova A 374
This study aims to assess the quality of four selected traumatic brain injuries management guidelines used mainly in the US and in Europe. A Broad spectrum of stakeholders should be represented in the brain trauma management guidelines development. The potential organizational and financial barriers for the application of guidelines need to be considered during their development. The paper provides suggestions for those who develop new guidelines for the management of patients with head injuries.