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To access resources click on the blue hyperlinks, if you are unable to read the full text of any item please contact the Clinical Librarian team or make an article request using this form.
Most recent guidance published:

Flu vaccination: increasing uptake : guidance (NG103)
Evidence-based recommendations on how to increase uptake of the free flu vaccination among people who are eligible

Other Guidance/Reports

Royal College of Nursing
Adult Safeguarding: Roles and competencies for Health Care Staff
This intercollegiate document has been designed to guide professionals and the teams they work with to identify the competencies they need in order to support individuals to receive personalised and culturally sensitive safeguarding. It sets out minimum training requirements along with education and training principles.

Canadian Paediatric Society
Stinging insect hypersensitivity: Evaluation and management in children and youth
This practice point reviews the different types of allergic reactions to stinging insects, how to evaluate such reactions, and both acute and chronic management. The focus is on stinging insects found in Canada (hornets, wasps, yellow jackets, honeybees).

Health Services and Delivery Research
Closing five Emergency Departments in England between 2009 and 2011: the closED controlled interrupted time-series analysis
We identified a number of measures to test the impact of closing EDs: population-level measures assessed if death rates changed and emergency care provider measures assessed changes in ED, emergency admission and ambulance service activity. Data were analysed over a 48-month period: for 24 months before and 24 months after each closure.

GOV.UK
Fentanyl: safety recommendations for first responders
Evidence-based recommendations to protect first responders from exposure to fentanyl.
Colloids versus crystalloids for fluid resuscitation in critically ill people
3 August

Mechanical versus manual chest compressions for cardiac arrest
20 August

Glucocorticoids for croup in children
22 August

Impact of medication reconciliation for improving transitions of care
23 August

Systematic reviews from other sources

Interventions to improve patient flow in emergency departments: an umbrella review
Emergency Medicine Journal, August 2018
Link to abstract

Impact of the communication and patient hand-off tool SBAR on patient safety: a systematic review
BMJ Open
Link to full text

This month’s clinical questions are…

How do outcomes compare for people attended by general practitioners (GPs) or emergency physicians in hospital emergency departments? Find out the answer here

How does immediate surgical intervention compare with observation for the management of abdominal trauma? Find out the answer here
Primary Research

Title: Development of a complex intervention aimed at reducing the risk of readmission of elderly patients discharged from the emergency department using the intervention mapping protocol
Source: BMC Health Services Research
Abstract/Conclusion: Limitations in performing daily activities and a incoherent discharge are risk factors for readmission of elderly patients after discharge from the emergency department. This paper describes the development and design of a complex intervention whose aim was to reduce the risk of readmission of elderly patients discharged from the emergency department.

Title: Longitudinal qualitative evaluation of pharmacist integration into the urgent care setting
Source: Integrated Pharmacy Research and Practice
Abstract/Conclusion: Pharmacists were better located initially in the minor illness rather than major trauma areas. Quality of patient experience resulting from the new role was important in addition to reassurance that the role represented a positive contribution to workload.

Title: The Surviving Sepsis Campaign: A Rush to Judgment
Source: Journal Watch – New England Journal of Medicine
Abstract/Conclusion: A new 1-hour sepsis care bundle was ill conceived and may have unintended negative consequences. Original article can be found here

Title: Factors associated with hospital emergency readmission and mortality rates in patients with heart failure or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: a national observational study
Source: Health Services and Delivery Research
Abstract/Conclusion: Factors predicting mortality and readmission following admission with heart failure or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease were identified at both patient and hospital levels.

Title: Emergency inserted peripheral intravenous catheters: a quality improvement project.
Source: British Journal of Nursing
Abstract/Conclusion: Routine clinical audits performed within the authors' health service demonstrated a delay in removing ambulance/emergency inserted PIVCs beyond acceptable dwell times.

Title: Recognition and nursing management of reflex anoxic seizures in children.
Source: British Journal of Nursing
Abstract/Conclusion: Reflex anoxic seizures (RAS) present with a transient loss of consciousness and are triggered by an unexpected stimuli. These are paroxysmal, short-lived episodes of pronounced bradycardia or transient asystole; the episodes are self-limiting, lasting between 15 seconds and 1 minute. RAS are an important differential diagnosis of transient loss of consciousness but they are commonly misdiagnosed as epileptic events.

Title: Alcohol-related harm: developing a drug and alcohol liaison team.
Source: British Journal of Nursing
Abstract/Conclusion: The City of Wolverhampton has much higher rates of accident and emergency (emergency department) attendance and hospital admission for alcohol-related harm than in neighbouring health authorities and double the national death rate from alcohol-related liver disease. Recovery Near You, the local addiction service, in partnership with The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust, initiated a nurse-led drug and alcohol liaison team to address these health issues.
Title: Changing the System - Major Trauma Patients and Their Outcomes in the NHS (England) 2008–17
Source: EClinicalMedicine
Abstract/Conclusion: A whole system national change was associated with significant improvements in both the care process and outcomes of patients after severe injury.

Title: Prospective Validation of the 0/1-h Algorithm for Early Diagnosis of Myocardial Infarction.
Citation: Journal of the American College of Cardiology. 72(6) pp. 620-632
Abstract/Conclusion: The ESC 0/1-h algorithm using hs-cTnT and hs-cTnI is very safe and effective in triaging patients with suspected NSTEMI.

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No new updates

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Adult

Topic: Chest pain in adults - approach to the patient
Summary: negative result on simple clinical decision rule may help exclude need for chest x-ray in adults with nontraumatic chest pain (Acad Emerg Med 2018 Jun)

Topic: Concussion and mild traumatic brain injury
Summary: EAST systematic review on primary prevention of contact sports-related concussions in amateur athletes (Trauma Surg Acute Care Open 2018)

Topic: Probiotics to prevent antibiotic-associated diarrhea
Summary: L. acidophilus plus L. casei reduces risk of C. difficile-associated diarrhea in adults taking antibiotics but limited evidence for benefit of L. acidophilus in combination with other probiotics (Cochrane Database Syst Rev 2017 Dec 19)

Topic: Abnormal uterine bleeding
Summary: tranexamic acid may reduce heavy menstrual bleeding and appears more effective than progestogens and mefenamic acid; insufficient evidence to evaluate effects on thromboembolic events (Cochrane Database Syst Rev 2018 Apr 15)

Paediatric

Topic: Urinary tract infection (UTI) in children, Fever without apparent source in children aged 3-36 months
Summary: UTICalc appears to predict risk of urinary tract infection in children < 2 years old presenting with fever (JAMA Pediatr 2018 Jun 1)

Topic: Fever without apparent source in infants less than 3 months old
Summary: ≥ 96% of invasive bacterial infections in infants ≤ 60 days old appear to be susceptible to ampicillin plus either gentamicin or third-generation cephalosporin (J Pediatr 2018 May 18 early online)

Emergency Medicine in the News

FDA extends EpiPen expiry date to combat shortage

Reports that 'women doctors should treat women with heart attacks' unsupported

Online Resources

BestBETs - BETs bring the evidence one step closer to the bedside, by providing answers to very specific clinical problems, using the best available evidence.

British National Formulary (BNF) and BNF for Children

The Royal College of Emergency Medicine

Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health

The Royal Marsden Manual of Clinical Procedures – available via your Athens login

NHS Choices - Behind the Headlines – the latest newspaper headlines debunked.

Journals & table of contents alerts

The Clinical Librarian team can help set up table of content alerts to the journal of your choice.