

# Rural Healthcare Quality Network

A Clinical Forum Newsletter

Rural Healthcare *Quality* Network

## Medical Literature Review

### Infectious Disease

*Question:* Is community acquired MRSA (CA-MRSA) expected to become an emerging problem in CAP (Community Acquired Pneumonia)?

*Answer:* YES. Patients who develop influenza pneumonia may be at risk for secondary CA-MRSA CAP.

*Source:* IDSA 2007 CAP Guidelines

### Family Practice/Internal Medicine

*Question:* When after onset of clinical symptoms of mononucleosis is spontaneous or traumatic splenic rupture likely to occur?

*Answer:* Almost always within three weeks of disease onset and rarely after four-six weeks.

*Source:* Clinical Sports Medicine. 2004; 23:285

### Medication Management

*Question:* Nitrates should NOT be given to patients who are taking erectile dysfunction meds within what timeframe?

*Answer:* 24-hours for short acting ED medication and 48 hours for longer acting agents (Levitra)

*Source:* American Journal of Emergency Medicine

### Urgent/Emergent Care

*Question:* What is the most effective route of administration of epinephrine for the treatment of anaphylaxis?



*Answer:* Intramuscular lateral aspect of the thigh.

*Source:* Current Opinion Allergy and Clinical Immunology, 2003, Aug; 3(4): 313-18.

### Nursing Focused Care

*Question:* Are postural vital signs valuable in assessing syncope in elderly patients?

*Answer:* Sometimes. However, a systolic B.P. drop of 20 mm Hg will be present in up to 40% of asymptomatic patients older than 70 years.

*Source:* Annals of Emergency Medicine, April 2007, pg. 431

### Risk Management:

*Question:* With blunt trauma resulting in cervical spine injury CT may be two-five times more sensitive than radiographs in identifying these injuries. True or False?

*Answer:* True. CT has become the diagnostic imaging test of choice when there exists clinical concern for cervical spine injury.

*Source:* American College of Emergency Physicians 38th Annual Scientific Assembly, 2007

## Practice Pearl: Management of MRSA

*Question:* What is the role of Zyvox (Linezolid) in the treatment of CA-MRSA?

*Answer:* Zyvox (600 mg p.o. bid for 10 days) is very expensive (\$1200). It should be considered for refractory disease or allergy/intolerance to other medications. An infections disease consultation may be considered. Recall that rifampin and clindamycin can rapidly induce MRSA resistance.