Gynaecology Bulletin

Articles

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How to manage incontinence-associated dermatitis in older adults.
Lumbers M. British Journal of Community Nursing 2019;24(7):332-337.
[Key points: Incontinence-associated dermatitis (IAD) is due to urine and or faecal matter and can present as either intact or broken skin; Over-hydration from excess levels of fluid causes the skin to swell. This not only allows irritants to enter and causes inflammation but also alters the pH levels of the skin, leaving it more susceptible to bacterial colonisation; The acronym CPR is a reminder to cleanse, protect and restore skin.]

Interventions for the treatment of Paget's disease of the vulva.
Edey KA. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2019;6:CD009245.
[Extramammary Paget's disease is a rare form of superficial skin cancer. The most common site of involvement is the vulva. It is seen mainly in postmenopausal white women. Paget's disease of the vulva often spreads in an occult fashion, with margins extending beyond the apparent edges of the lesion. There is a range of interventions from surgical to non-invasive techniques or treatments.]

Intimate partner violence, post-traumatic disorders and menopausal symptoms.
Ali P. Evidence-Based Nursing 2019;22(3):90.
[Healthcare professionals need to be aware of the impact of intimate partner violence (IPV) experienced by mid-life and older women as IPV experiences and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) can have an impact on menopausal symptoms. Further robust and longitudinal research is needed to explore the impact of IPV on mid-life and older women’s lives]

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Risk of ovarian cancer in women treated with ovarian stimulating drugs for infertility.
Rizzuto I. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2019;6:CD008215.
[This is an updated version of the original Cochrane Review published in the Cochrane Library in 2013 (Issue 8) on the risk of ovarian cancer in women using infertility drugs when compared to the general population or to infertile women not treated. The link between fertility drugs and ovarian cancer remains controversial.]

Safety and efficacy of testosterone for women: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trial data.
[Review (36 RCTs, n=8,480) reports testosterone is effective for postmenopausal women
with low sexual desire causing distress, with administration via non-oral routes (e.g. transdermal application) preferred because of a neutral lipid profile.]

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**Thyroxine replacement for subfertile women with euthyroid autoimmune thyroid disease or subclinical hypothyroidism.**
Akhtar MA. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2019;6:CD011009.
[Subclinical hypothyroidism is diagnosed by an elevated thyroid-stimulating hormone concentration with a normal concentration of free thyroxine hormone. Autoimmune thyroid disease (ATD) is diagnosed by the presence of thyroid autoantibodies, regardless of thyroid hormone levels. Thyroxine may be a useful treatment for subfertile women with these two specific types of thyroid disease for improving pregnancy outcomes during assisted reproduction.]

**Reports**

*The following report(s) may be of interest:*

**Having fewer 'friendly vaginal bacteria' linked to ovarian cancer.**
NHS Behind the Headlines; 2019.
[A study compared the make-up of vaginal bacteria in women with and without ovarian cancer, and women who did not have ovarian cancer, but did have mutations in the BRCA1 gene. The researchers found women under 50 who had ovarian cancer or the BRCA1 mutations had lower levels of lactobacillus. While this study has found a link, we do not yet know if these bacteria directly affect risk of ovarian cancer.]
*Freely available online*

**Nurse specialist in menopause.**
Royal College of Nursing (RCN); 2019.
https://www.rcn.org.uk/professional-development/publications/pub-007732
[The role of a specialist in menopause was included in the 2015 NICE guidelines on managing menopause, however the detail of how this role might be implemented in practice was less clear and subsequently the British Menopause Society (BMS) produced a guide for all health care professionals. This booklet builds on the BMS agreed standards, focusing on the options for nurses who may choose a career pathway towards becoming a specialist practitioner in menopause.]
*Freely available online*

**Success of HPV vaccine could lead to end of cervical cancer.**
NHS Behind the Headlines; 2019.
[Researchers in Canada summarised 65 studies from 14 countries that have introduced HPV vaccination since it became available a decade ago. The vaccine targets several strains of human papilloma virus (HPV), including strains 16 and 18 which cause most cervical
cancers. HPV 16 or 18 infections fell by 83% for teenage girls and 66% for young women 5 to 8 years after vaccine introduction.]

Freely available online

Transvaginal ultrasound and MRI achieve similar accuracy for diagnosing lower bowel endometriosis.
NIHR Dissemination Centre; 2019.
https://discover.dc.nihr.ac.uk/content/signal-000791/endometriosis-in-lower-bowel-diagnosed-with-mri-or-ultrasound

[NIHR Signal. Transvaginal ultrasound and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans are both accurate ways to diagnose the most severe form of deep endometriosis affecting the bowel. By using both transvaginal ultrasound and MRI, the chance of non-invasively and accurately diagnosing endometriosis of the lower bowel rises to nearly 100%. This review and meta-analysis looked at eight studies where both transvaginal ultrasound and MRI had been used to diagnose endometriosis in a total of 1,132 women.]

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This Bulletin was created by Sian Hudson of NHS East Dorset Knowledge and Library Service

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