



May 2010, Volume 100, No. 5

FROM THE EDITOR

259 **Obamacare – a stunning legacy**

EDITOR'S CHOICE

CORRESPONDENCE

262 **A personal tribute to Ralph Kirsch**
Nonhlanhla P Khumalo

262 **Sudden death on an aeroplane**
J G Prinsloo

262 **Pathology request guidelines: Haematology questioned**
K Moeng, A D Mahomed, M Patel; reply by J C Stanfliet, J A King and T S Pillay

266 ERRATA

266 WITHDRAWAL

IZINDABA

268 **Occupation-specific dispensation – a hapless tale**

274 **Dysfunctional MCC under legal threat**

278 **'Opt-out' testing lacks patient-friendly system**

280 **Eastern Cape health bail-out set to 'fall short' – analyst**

SAMJ FORUM

ISSUES IN MEDICINE

286 **Cell-based therapy – navigating troubled waters**
Michael S Pepper

CLINICAL IMAGES

290 **Non-accidental injury – 'the silent pandemic'**
Xolisa Mgele

EDITORIALS

292 **A Pan-African Clinical Trials Registry for the specific needs of
triallists on the continent**
Amber Abrams, Nandi Siegfried

294 **The role of the state in establishing a public cord blood stem cell bank**
Vernon J Louw, Anthon du P Heyns

SCIENTIFIC LETTERS

296 **Adrenal suppression and Cushing's syndrome secondary to
ritonavir and budesonide**
D Gray, P Roux, M Carrihill, M Klein

297 **High prevalence of hookah smoking among secondary school students in a
disadvantaged community in Johannesburg**
A Combrink, N Irwin, G Laudin, K Naidoo, S Plagerson, A Mathee



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ORIGINAL ARTICLES

- 300 **The burden of imported malaria in Gauteng Province**
Ingrid B Weber, Lee Baker, Joy Mnyaluzo, Maila J Matjila, Karen Barnes, Lucille Blumberg
- 304 **Dosage adjustment in medical patients with renal impairment at Groote Schuur Hospital**
Eric Decloedt, Rory Leisegang, Marc Blockman, Karen Cohen
- 307 **Endogenous heparin levels in the controlled asthmatic patient**
Hajierah Davids, Ayesha Ahmed, Ari Oberholster, Christo van der Westerhuizen, Mervyn Mer, Ivan Havlik
- 309 **Primary care morbidity in Eastern Cape Province**
Valerie Brueton, Parimalarani Yogeswaran, Jimmy Chandia, Khaya Mfenyana, Bernadette Modell, Michael Modell, Irwin Nazareth
- 313 **Caesarean section wound infiltration with local anaesthetic for postoperative pain relief – any benefit?**
Anthony Akinloye Bamigboye, George Justus Hofmyer
- 320 **Guideline: South African guideline for the diagnosis, management and prevention of acute viral bronchiolitis in children**
Robin J Green, Heather J Zar, Prakash M Jeena, Shabir A Madhi, Humphrey Lewis

7 CPD QUESTIONS

1 PULSE – NEWS FROM THE MARKETPLACE

1 PROFESSIONAL ADVERTISING – FOREIGN OPPORTUNITIES

4 PROFESSIONAL ADVERTISING – LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES

Contents listed in

INDEX MEDICUS (MEDLINE).
EXCERPTA MEDICA (EM BASE).
BIOLOGICAL ABSTRACTS (BIOSIS).
SCIENCE CITATION INDEX
(SCISEARCH). CURRENT CON-
TENTS/CLINICAL MEDICINE

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*Although not the largest African eagle, the African Crowned Eagle *Stephanoaetus coronatus* is generally considered to be the most powerful. It has massive talons, and inhabits forest or well-wooded country, hunting by stealth, either by dropping from a branch onto prey such as a Blue Duiker, or by surprising Vervet Monkeys in the treetops in a surprise aerial attack. The largest kill on record is of a Bushbuck weighing 18 kilograms – 5 times the weight of the eagle. The nest is an enormous structure placed in the fork of a large forest tree; some that have been used for many years measure 2 m across and 3 m in depth.*

Photo and text: Peter Steyn
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