

**Editors**

Geoff Hughes (Australia)  
Kevin Mackway-Jones (UK)

**Deputy Editors**

Steve Goodacre (Acute Medicine) (UK)  
Darren Walter (Prehospital Care) (UK)  
Ian Maconochie (Paediatric Emergency Medicine) (UK)  
Janos Baombe (Web editor) (UK)

**Associate Editors**

Simon Carley (Evidence-based Medicine) (UK)  
Malcolm Woollard (Prehospital Care) (UK)  
Jonathan Wyatt (UK)

**Editorial Office**

BMJ Publishing Group Ltd, BMA House,  
Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR, UK  
T: +44 (0)20 7383 6394  
F: +44 (0)20 7383 6668  
E: [emjeditorial@bmjgroup.com](mailto:emjeditorial@bmjgroup.com)

ISSN: 1472-0205 (print)  
ISSN: 1472-0213 (online)

Impact factor: 1.477

**Disclaimer:** Emergency Medicine Journal is owned and published by the British Association for Emergency Medicine and BMJ Publishing Group Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary of the British Medical Association. The owners grant editorial freedom to the Editor of Emergency Medicine Journal.

Emergency Medicine Journal follows guidelines on editorial independence produced by the World Association of Medical Editors and the code on good publication practice of the Committee on Publication Ethics.

Emergency Medicine Journal is intended for medical professionals and is provided without warranty, express or implied. Statements in the journal are the responsibility of their authors and advertisers and not authors' institutions, the BMJ Publishing Group Ltd or the BMA unless otherwise specified or determined by law. Acceptance of advertising does not imply endorsement.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the BMJ Publishing Group Ltd shall not be liable for any loss, injury or damage resulting from the use of Emergency Medicine Journal or any information in it whether based on contract, tort or otherwise. Readers are advised to verify any information they choose to rely on.

**Copyright:** © 2011 BMJ Publishing Group Ltd and the College of Emergency Medicine. All rights reserved; no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior permission of Emergency Medicine Journal.

Emergency Medicine Journal is published by BMJ Publishing Group Ltd, typeset by TNQ Books & Journals, Chennai, India and printed in the UK on acid-free paper by Latimer Trend, Plymouth.

Emergency Medicine Journal (ISSN No1472-0205) is published monthly by BMJ Publishing Group and is distributed in the USA by Mercury International Ltd. Periodicals postage paid at Rahway, NJ.  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Emergency Medicine Journal, Mercury International Ltd, 365 Blair Road, Avenel, NJ, 07001, USA.

**Primary survey**

177 G Hughes

**Editorial**

178 The NHS atlas  
G Hughes

**Commentary**

179 Obituary for the four-hour target  
H Guly, I Higginson

**Review**

182 Systematic review of alcohol screening tools for use in the emergency department  
L A Jones

**Original articles**

192 Portable treatment technologies for urgent care  
S Hignett, A Jones, J Bengler

197 Imaging patients with renal colic: a comparative analysis of the impact of non-contrast helical computed tomography versus intravenous pyelography on the speed of patient processing in the Emergency Department  
M Quirke, F Divilly, P O'Kelly, S Winder, P Gilligan

201 Intravenous fluid resuscitation: was Poiseuille right?  
A D Reddick, J Ronald, W G Morrison

203 Improving emergency care pathways: an action research approach  
R Endacott, S Cooper, R Sheaff, J Padmore, G Blakely

208 Serum IL-6, TNF $\alpha$  levels in snakebite cases occurring in Southern Turkey  
A Açıkalın, Y Gökel

212 Importance of Manchester Triage in acute myocardial infarction: impact on prognosis  
R Providência, P L Gomes, S Barra, J Silva, L Seca, A Antunes, J R Pais, P Mota, A Leitão-Marques

217 Rapid sequence induction of anaesthesia in UK emergency departments: a national census  
J Bengler, S Hopkinson

221 Optimising care in a Swiss University Emergency Department by implementing a multicentre trauma register (TARN): report on evaluation, costs and benefits of trauma registries  
M J Hartel, N Jordi, D-S Evangelopoulos, R Hasler, K Dopke, H Zimmermann, A K Exadaktylos

**Prehospital care**

225 Success in physician prehospital rapid sequence intubation: what is the effect of base speciality and length of anaesthetic training?  
T Harris, D Lockey

230 Treating ST elevation myocardial infarction by primary percutaneous coronary intervention, in-hospital thrombolysis and prehospital thrombolysis. An observational study of timelines and outcomes in 625 patients  
S McLean, S Wild, P Connor, A D Flapan

237 Abstracts selected through the 999 EMS Research Forum peer review process and presented orally and by poster at the Faculty of Pre-hospital Care Scientific Conference 2009: Prize winners

**Short report**

239 Time lag to hospitalisation and the associated determinants in patients with acute myocardial infarction: the Takashima AMI Registry, Japan  
T C Turin, Y Kita, N Rumana, Y Nakamura, N Takashima, H Sugihara, Y Morita, K Matsui, A Okayama, K Miura, H Ueshima

**Best evidence topic reports**

R Body

242 Do bisphosphonates relieve pain caused by acute osteoporotic vertebral compression fractures?  
E Jenkinson, J Coleman, S Babu, R Ferner

243 Inflatable nasal tampons are less painful than dry hydrophilic nasal tampons  
S B Phelps, L Sultan

244 Colchicine as an adjunct to non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs for the treatment of acute pericarditis  
A Eppert, J P Baombe

MORE CONTENTS ►



This article has been chosen by the Editor to be of special interest or importance and is freely available online.



Articles carrying the Unlocked Logo are freely available online under the BMJ Journals unlocked scheme. See <http://emj.bmj.com/info/unlocked.dtl>

COPE COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION ETHICS

This journal is a member of and subscribes to the principles of the Committee on Publication Ethics

[www.publicationethics.org.uk](http://www.publicationethics.org.uk)



When you have finished with this magazine please recycle it.

- 245** Current evidence does not support the use of a negative D-dimer to rule out suspected pulmonary embolism in pregnancy  
*S Sivandarajah, D Horner*

---

**Emergency casebook**

- 247** The best way to a woman's heart?  
*D N Porter, C Emerson, P Ward*

---

**PostScript**

- 249** Letters  
**250** Book reviews

---

**Miscellanea**

- 181** Emergency Medicine Questions (EMQs)  
**253** EMQ answers  
**260** Sophia

---

**Images in emergency medicine**

- 180** Giant hydronephrosis  
*C-T Lai, H-H Chen, C-J Wu, C-W Chang*
- 196** Importance of magnifying CT images to detect minute free air in patients with blunt bowel injury  
*Y Yanagawa, S Fukazawa, T Imamura*

- 254** Tongue in cheek  
*A Alexoudis, A Spyridonidou, S Manousakis, A Thomaïdi*

- 255** The whirl sign  
*J S You, S D Kim, S P Chung, Y E Chung*

- 256** Improved visualisation of a subdural haematoma with the use of reconstructed coronal view images and multi-detector CT  
*J S You, Y E Chung, S Park, J W Park, D K Sohn, T S Hwang*

- 257** Intracranial hypotension: an unusual cause of headache in the emergency department  
*Y-M Weng, T-C Weng, W-J Lee, H-J Lin*

- 258** Dural sinus thrombosis: a not so unusual clinical presentation  
*Y Freund, J Bokobza, E Magalhaes, B Riou*

---

**Electronic pages**

- e1** Abstracts selected through the 999 EMS Research Forum peer review process and presented orally and by poster at the Faculty of Pre-hospital Care Scientific Conference 2009: Abstracts