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Critical Care

Genetics and genomics

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SERIALS

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Acute respiratory distress syndrome
part 1

Understanding acute pancreatitis

A better triage system?

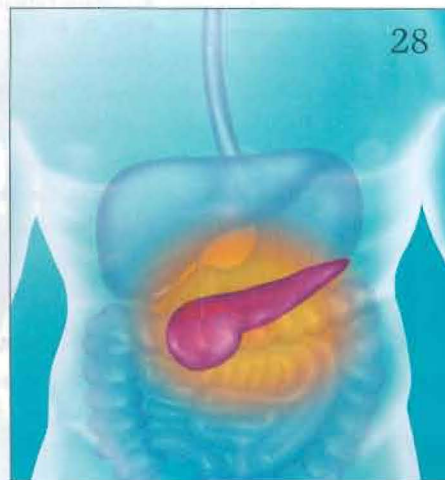
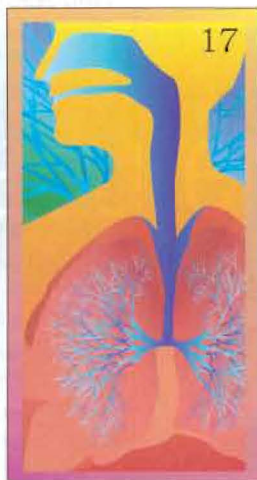
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Critical Care



FEATURES

12 Genetics and genomics in critical care nursing

By Elizabeth L. Pestka, MS, RN, PMHCNS-BC, APNG, and Margaret F. Dretsch, BSN, RN

This article provides an overview of the importance of genetics and genomics for nurses and uses hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, a commonly inherited cardiovascular disorder, as an example of a genetic disorder with implications for nursing care.

17 Managing a patient with acute respiratory distress syndrome, part 1

By Jin Xiong Lian, BSN, RN, CNS

Despite substantial advances in knowledge and improvements in treatments, mortality from ARDS remains high, ranging from 15% to 75%. This article, the first in a two-part series, discusses the pathophysiology of ARDS and how to use lung-protective strategies for mechanical ventilation.

28 Understanding acute pancreatitis

By Helene Harris, MSN, RN; Carla Smith, MS, RN; and Margaret Tobin, MS, RN

Most cases of acute pancreatitis are mild, but the disease can be life-threatening if the necrotiz-

ing form develops. Electrolyte and nutritional imbalances in acute pancreatitis also affect more than the gastrointestinal tract. This article describes acute pancreatitis, patient care, and preventive steps.

34 ESI: A better triage system?

By Rachel Shelton, MSN, RN, BSN

Learn about a five-level triage system that's been endorsed by the Emergency Nurses Association and American College of Emergency Physicians as a way to reduce life-threatening delays for patients seeking healthcare.

38 Pacing therapies for atrial fibrillation

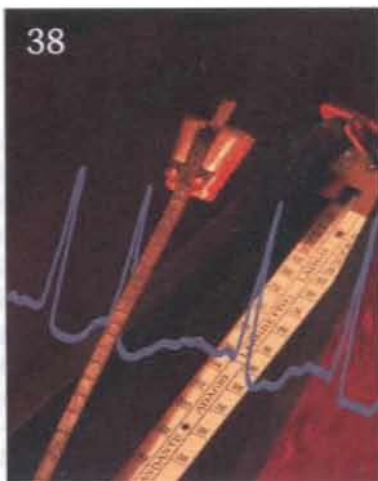
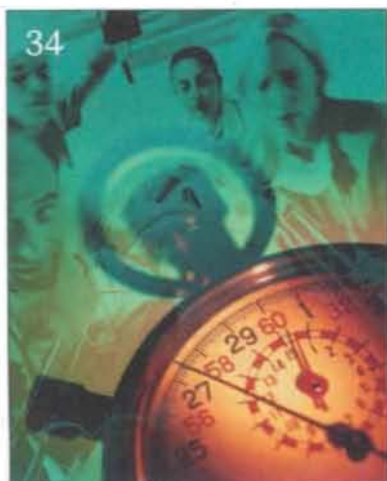
By Diane M. Bosen, MSN, RN, APN-BC, CCRN

Costly and potentially fatal, atrial fibrillation is the most common sustained dysrhythmia encountered in clinical practice settings. Refresh your knowledge about AF's mechanisms, clinical manifestations, various types of pacing therapy for AF, and when each type of therapy is indicated.



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DEPARTMENTS

4 Editorial

As genetic and genomic tests and technology become more widespread, understanding these concepts will be an important part of providing good nursing care.

5 Heart Beats

Find out how to recognize left and right bundle branch blocks, as well as hemiblocks and incomplete blocks.

9 Topics in Progressive Care

This illustrated guide describes how to evaluate a patient's nervous system by testing each of the 12 cranial nerves.

43 Research Rounds

Learn how one hospital improved an initiative to use human patient simulation and real-world

patient scenarios to assess the competency of newly hired RNs.

46 Tech Talk

- The teaching and learning methods that worked in the past may not be effective for newcomers to the profession, who've grown up in the digital age. Find out about the interactive computer-based training that nurse educators and staff development professionals need to teach younger nurses effectively.

48 Pearls

Professional etiquette is critical for presenting yourself as a polished, confident, and professional nurse. These seven tips can help you stand out and improve your chances for career success.

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