

## In This Issue: January 9, 2024

### Research

#### ORIGINAL INVESTIGATION

**111 Measuring Equity in Readmission as a Distinct Assessment of Hospital Performance**  
KA Nash and Coauthors

This cross-sectional study of US hospitals compared hospital and patient characteristics to evaluate equitable rates of readmission by insurance (dual eligible [Medicare and Medicaid] vs non-dual eligible) and race (Black vs White).

**124 Social Risk and Dialysis Facility Performance in the First Year of the ESRD Treatment Choices Model**  
KG Koukounas and Coauthors

This observational study assesses the first-year of the End-Stage Renal Disease Treatment Choices model performance and the financial penalties sustained by facilities that serve patients with high social risk vs facilities that serve populations with lower social risk.

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**132 The Comprehensive Primary Care Plus Model and Health Care Spending, Service Use, and Quality**  
P Singh and Coauthors

This study tests whether the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' Comprehensive Primary Care Plus model, which provided payment, data feedback, learning, and health information technology supports for more than 3000 US primary care practices, was associated with lower health care spending and utilization and improved quality of care.

CME

#### RESEARCH LETTER

**160 Dementia in Women Using Estrogen-Only Therapy**  
N Pourhadi and Coauthors

This study examines the association between use of estrogen-only therapy for perimenopausal and menopausal women and risk of dementia.

**162 Reported Variation in Hospital Billing Quality**  
KC Rumalla and Coauthors

This study examines how US hospitals perform on billing quality measures, including legal actions taken by a hospital to collect medical debt, the timeliness of sending patients an itemized billing statement, and patient access to a qualified billing representative.

Available online

jama.com

### Opinion

#### VIEWPOINT

**103 "Rectal Feeding"—Unethical Medical Officer Participation at CIA Secret Interrogation Facilities**  
SS Crosby and LH Glantz

**105 Concerns That May Limit the Utility of Zuranolone**  
V Prasad and D Allely

#### A PIECE OF MY MIND

**107 Dropping Off and Picking Up**  
H May

In this narrative medicine essay, a first-year medical student contrasts the life of her young daughter with the older cadaver that she dissects and explores in her anatomy laboratory.

#### EDITORIAL

**108 Federal Regulations and Dialysis-Related Disparities**  
JI Shen, L Golestaneh, and KC Norris

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### Clinical Review & Education

#### REVIEW

**147 Age-Related Macular Degeneration: A Review**  
M Fleckenstein, S Schmitz-Valckenberg, and U Chakravarthy

This review summarizes current evidence regarding pathophysiology, risk factors, clinical presentation, diagnosis, and treatment of age-related macular degeneration.

Audio | CME

#### JAMA CLINICAL CHALLENGE

**158 Progressive Dyspnea on Exertion in an 82-Year-Old**

A Mathavan, A Mathavan, and A Ataya

An older patient with hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia and right lower lobe segmental pulmonary embolism presented with dyspnea that had worsened over 5 years; physical examination and laboratory testing showed jugular venous distension, a cardiac systolic murmur, right ventricular heave, bilateral lower extremity edema to the knees, and elevated brain-type natriuretic peptide level. What is the diagnosis and what would you do next?

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### Online at JAMA.com

#### AUDIO

Editor's Summary of This Issue

AI and Clinical Practice—the AI Health Care Goal for Patient Care

December 2023 Medical News Summary

Social Risk and Dialysis Facility Performance

Age-Related Macular Degeneration

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Editor in Chief  
Kirsten Bibbins-Domingo, PhD, MD, MAS

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**176 Driving Impairment Among Older Adults**  
RA Voelker

This JAMA Patient Page describes risk factors for driving impairment among older adults, such as medical conditions and medications, and ways to mitigate driving impairment.

### News & Analysis

#### MEDICAL NEWS & PERSPECTIVES

**95 How AI Assistants Could Help Answer Patients' Messages—and Potentially Improve Their Outcomes**

J Abbasi and Y Hswen

This Medical News article is an interview with John Ayers, PhD, MA, vice chief of innovation in the Division of Infectious Diseases & Global Public Health at the University of California, San Diego, the lead author of a recent study on chatbot responses to patient questions.

 Audio | Video

**98 Studies Investigate Whether Antivirals Like Paxlovid May Prevent Long COVID**

M Suran

This Medical News article discusses 2 new observational studies that examined associations with SARS-CoV-2 antiviral medications and long COVID.

 Audio

### MEDICAL NEWS IN BRIEF

**101 Endocarditis-Related Deaths Among US Younger Adults Is "Cause for Alarm"**

**101 Using Throat Swabs Improved Sensitivity in Detecting SARS-CoV-2**

**101 Program Offering Free COVID-19 and Flu Services Expands Nationwide**

**101 Antimicrobial Resistance Is Rising in Ukraine and Neighboring Areas**

**101 Scoring Higher on Brain Care Tool Tied to Lower Dementia, Stroke Risk**

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