

Editorial

Welcome to Update 23!

This edition of Update contains a number of articles relevant to Obstetric Anaesthesia in developing countries, an area of huge demand where maintenance of ongoing education and professional development is needed to continue improving obstetric morbidity and mortality. Thanks to Drs Matt Rucklidge and Emma Hartsilver for their help in editing the obstetric articles.

The majority of patients admitted to intensive care units in all countries of the world suffer an episode of sepsis at some point in their admission and the contribution of sepsis to ICU mortality, particularly in the developing world, is significant. The article on Management of sepsis aims to unravel the recent developments in this field and identify which therapies can be adapted or extrapolated for use in settings where limited resources cannot allow full-scale implementation of such extensive 'bundles' of treatments. Knowledge of this field is essential for all anaesthetists, as management of septic patients often begins as the surgical team ask for the patient to be anaesthetised for life-saving surgery.

I have re-introduced old favourites from Update, such as From the journals, where we have tried to select articles that may change an anaesthetist's practice, or describe simple, novel and practical solutions to common problems encountered in theatre or the ICU.

Please email me at Bruce.McCormick@rdefn.nhs.uk with requests for future articles or if you identify any past Update articles that you feel could be brought up to date. I shall attempt to commission writers for any appropriate topics that our readers request.

Update 23 should reach you with a tougher more durable cover, hopefully improving its longevity on your bookshelf. If you or any of your colleagues wish to subscribe to receive the printed version of future editions of Update please email Carol Wilson at worldanaesthesia@mac.com. If your postal address has changed, please let Carol know as soon as possible.

Thank you to Isabeau Walker for editing the articles on Anaesthesia for neurosurgery and Invasive blood pressure monitoring. Thank you, as always, to the World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists for funding Update, to Angie Frost of Sumographics for type-setting the journal and to Priscilla Ang at COS in Singapore for organising the printing and distribution.

Bruce McCormick

Editor

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