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IN BRIEF

INCONTINENCE

Definition accounts for sixfold variation in incontinence rates

For any given age group, female urinary incontinence rates varied by as much as sixfold between different population-based studies published in 1996–2011, according to a recent MEDLINE review. This finding was largely explained by variation in case definition, highlighting the need to develop standards of reporting. The authors of this review, Walter Stewart and colleagues, recommend the use of quantitative frequency criteria (such as ‘twice a month’) over vague thresholds (for example, ‘sometimes’ or ‘often’).

Original article Stewart, W. F. *et al.* Urinary incontinence incidence: quantitative meta-analysis of factors that explain variation. *J. Urol.* doi:10.1097/AOG.0b013e3182a8a5e4

PROSTATE CANCER

Neoadjuvant ADT has immediate effect on quality of life

In a recent study, patients experienced significant impairment of sexual and vitality/hormonal quality of life (QOL) within the first 2 months of receiving neoadjuvant androgen deprivation therapy (ADT), even before starting definitive radiotherapy. 450 men completed the Expanded Prostate Cancer Index Composite-26 questionnaire before and shortly after starting neoadjuvant ADT, 71 of whom received ADT prior to radiotherapy. The significant QOL effects of this therapy should be weighed carefully against potential clinical benefit.

Original article Gay, H. A. *et al.* Neoadjuvant androgen deprivation therapy leads to immediate impairment of vitality/hormonal and sexual quality of life: results of a multicenter prospective study. *Urology* doi:10.1016/j.urology.2013.06.062

STONES

Vitamin D does not increase the risk of kidney stones

An analysis of GrassrootsHealth data for 2,012 participants followed prospectively for a median of 19 months has shown no link between serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D levels of 20–100 ng/ml and kidney stones. Vitamin D levels of 40–60 ng/ml have been shown, in previous studies, to reduce the risk of diseases such as breast cancer, colorectal cancer, multiple sclerosis, and type 1 diabetes mellitus, but concerns have been raised regarding an increased risk of stones with vitamin D supplementation.

Original article Nguyen, S. *et al.* 25-hydroxyvitamin d in the range of 20 to 100 ng/ml and incidence of kidney stones. *Am. J. Public Health* doi:10.2105/AJPH.2013.301368

KIDNEY CANCER

Vascular wall margins have little impact on cancer outcomes

In a study of 256 patients treated surgically for renal cell carcinoma (RCC) with venous thrombus at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center between 1993 and 2009, median recurrence-free interval was significantly shorter in patients with positive vascular margins (22.1 months vs 70.2 months). However, although tumour invasion into the vein wall at the resection margin was independently predictive of local recurrence, multivariable analysis revealed that it had minimal effect on systemic recurrence or cancer-specific survival.

Original article Abel, E. J. *et al.* Positive vascular wall margins have minimal impact on cancer outcomes in non-metastatic RCC patients with tumor thrombus. *BJU Int.* doi:10.1111/bju.12515