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Managed Care & Healthcare Communications, LLC

666 Plainsboro Rd, Ste 300
Plainsboro, NJ 08536
Tel: (609) 716-7777
Fax: (609) 257-0702
E-mail: info@ajpbllive.com
Web: www.ajpbllive.com



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FROM THE EDITOR

Has the Time Come for Comparative Effectiveness Research?

■ **JAN E. BERGER, MD, MJ**

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The Editor discusses how the results from comparative effectiveness research will affect the various constituents in the healthcare sector.

THE PHARMACY & THERAPEUTICS SOCIETY

Putting Research Into Practice

■ **EDMUND J. PEZALLA, MD, MPH**

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This commentary encourages P&T committee members to be champions for assimilating new findings into medical practice and translating research into real outcomes.

Getting a Grip on Pain Management

■ **ZACHARIAH GERGER, DO**

73

It is important that clinicians with pain management expertise be on committees that choose pain medications for formularies.

COMMENTARY

Value-Based Health Design: Putting the Patient at the Center

■ **CYNDY NAYER, MA**

79

Ms Nayer praises the bold collaborations between pharmaceutical companies and health plans that base contract incentives on improving health outcomes, not the volume of drugs sold.

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Predictors of Response to Anti-Tumor Necrosis Factor Alpha Therapies in Rheumatoid Arthritis

■ **RODNEY S. DANIEL, MD; RAE L. BOURNE, MD; ANNIE N. SIMPSON, MSc; KENNETH S. O'ROURKE, MD; AND MARCY B. BOLSTER, MD**

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Methotrexate ≥ 15 mg weekly and adalimumab as first-line therapy were positive predictors of anti-TNF- α response in patients with rheumatoid arthritis.

ORIGINAL RESEARCH (CONTINUED)

An Intermittent Reinforcement Platform to Increase Adherence to Medications

- MURAT V. KALAYOGLU, MD, PHD; MICHAEL REPPUCCI, RPH; TERRENCE F. BLASCHKE, MD; LUIS N. MARENCO, MD; AND MICHAEL S. SINGER, MD, PHD 91

An automated reinforcement platform was shown to increase statin adherence by 34.6%.

Presenting Prescribing Data to Primary Care Physicians to Explain Nonadherence to Acute Cystitis Treatment Guidelines

- NATAN R. KAHAN, PHD, RPH, MHA; DAN-ANDREI WAITMAN, MD, MPH; BARUCH WEINREB, MD; ERNESTO KAHAN, MD, MPH; AND DAVID P. CHINITZ, PHD 95

Nominal group technique reinforced with electronic voting technology to stimulate conversation is a feasible technique for conducting focus groups with primary care physicians.

CONFERENCE COVERAGE

Catalyzing Change: Educating Healthcare Stakeholders on Pharmacist Care Programs

- MARIE A. SMITH, PHARM.D.; AND JEANNETTE Y. WICK, RPH, MBA 101

A multistakeholder, statewide symposium demonstrated the value of innovative pharmacist-led patient care programs and generated 9 key measures for planning or examining such programs.

COMMENTARY

Individualized Care Plans: A New Healthcare Delivery Model

- MYRL WEINBERG, CAE 109

An individualized care plan for patients with chronic conditions will improve outcomes and eliminate unwanted and unnecessary care.

DRUG TRENDS

Generational Impact on Prescription Drug Trend: Part 1

- ANNA A. THEODOROU, RPH, MBA; JOHN A. SZYCHOWSKI, AAS, BS; JULIE SLEZAK, MS; AND STEVEN M. FOX, CPA 111

Part 1 of this 2-part overview of prescription drug trend focuses on important therapeutic classes for all generations.

“To maximize the financial value of every healthcare dollar spent, we have to prioritize resources, identify vulnerable populations, and support the behavior changes that motivate better outcomes.”

from

“Value-Based Health Design: Putting the Patient at the Center,”
page 79

MISSION

To provide pharmacy and formulary decision makers with the information they need to improve the efficiency and health outcomes in managing pharmaceutical care.