

# Medical Literature 2018

## Turning Evidence into Practice

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# Disclosurers:

- None

# Roadmap

- Case based interactive format
- Multiple articles per case
- Quick hitters and Short takes
- \*\* Lightning Reviews \*\*
- Summary of suggested practice changes

# Learning Objectives

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1. *Describe* the primary conclusions
2. *Identify* changes to your practice
3. *Implement* these practice changes

# Journals Reviewed...

- Jan 2018 – Dec 2018
  - N Engl J Med
  - JAMA; JAMA Intern Med
  - J Gen Intern Med
  - J Hospit Med
  - Ann Intern Med + ACP J Club
  - Lancet; Stroke, Am J Med, Circulation, J Am Coll Cardiol, BMJ, Chest
  - ACP Plus, BMJ Online update, J Watch

# Disclosures

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- None relevant

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# Topics

- Syncope and PE – something new...
- Pneumonia
- A fib and Heart Failure
- Sepsis, Stroke
- Opiate use disorder
- Acute cholecystitis



# **Notables in 2018**



*N Engl J Med* 2018;379:1499-508.

*N Engl J Med* 2018;379:1509-18.

*N Engl J Med* 2018;379:1519-28.

*N Engl J Med* 2018;379:1529-39.

*N Engl J Med* 2018;378:740-51.

*Lancet* 2018;391:1357-66.



*Clin Infect Dis* 2018;66:e1-e48.

1. ORAL VANCO or FIDAX instead of METRO, non severe
2. If severe, high dose enteral vanco + IV metro

*JAMA* 2018;320:1031-1032.

*JAMA* 2018;320(23):2471-2473.

*J Am Coll Cardiol* 2018;72:2199-2269.

*Ann Intern Med* 2018;168:351-358.

Changes in:

Diagnosis

Thresholds for therapy initiation

Ongoing management

*JAMA* 2017;318:2132-2134.

Cluster randomized trial of 319 black men  
Pharmacist-led intervention in the shop  
SBP reduction at 6 months 21.6 mm Hg more  
compared to control

*N Engl J Med* 2018;378:1291-301.

*Ann Intern Med* 2018;169:704-709.



*Ann Intern Med* 2018;169:885-886.

# Case 1

67 y/o woman presents with syncope while seated at dinner. Had been feeling more dyspneic that afternoon while mowing the lawn.

BPPV, HTN, OA, GERD, OSA

146/74, 102, 18, Afeb. Clear lungs, trace edema

Neuro exam including gait/cerebellar nl.

EKG NSR with sinus tach

CXR clear

# Case 1, cont.

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D-dimer 1.05

CT-PE is performed and...

*N Engl J Med* 2016;375:1524-31.

*JAMA Intern Med* 2018;178:356-362.

# PE in Syncope

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*JAMA Intern Med* 2018;178:356-362.

# PE in Syncope

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# PE in Syncope

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*JAMA Intern Med* 2018;178:356-362.



# Case 1a: PE

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There are bilateral segmental pulmonary emboli without evidence of cardiac dilation.

You begin anticoagulation and ask a pharmacy colleague about DOAC's they might recommend.

But as a great internist, you can't help but ask the larger question of why...

# Case 1a: Do I Look for Ca?

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- A. H&P and age appropriate screening
- B. Above, plus IV/po contrast CT abd/pelvis

*Ann Intern Med* 2017;167:410-417.

# Idiopathic VTE Cancer Screening

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*Ann Intern Med* 2017;167:410-417.

# Idiopathic VTE Cancer Screening

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*Ann Intern Med* 2017;167:410-417.

# Idiopathic VTE Cancer Screening

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*Ann Intern Med* 2017;167:410-417.

# Quick Hitter

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*N Engl J Med* 2018;378:615-24.

# Case 1b: no PE

The CT scan shows evidence of prior granulomatous disease but no pulmonary emboli with good timing of contrast bolus.

As you consider your next move, you are called for rapid atrial fibrillation to 160s with hypotension – she is close to passing out again.

Hurray! An answer!



# Case 1b: no PE

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Now you DO get an ECHO and LVEF 35%  
More detailed history shows Class II-III DOE  
over six months  
And more ETOH intake than first described  
Her stroke risk score is high...

*BMJ* 2017;359:j5058.

**Please see slide at  
Presentation**

*BMJ* 2017;359:j5058.

*N Engl J Med* 2018;378:417-27.

# CASTLE-AF Study

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*N Engl J Med* 2018;378:417-27.

# CASTLE-AF Study Results

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# CASTLE-AF Study

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*N Engl J Med* 2018;378:417-27.



*JAMA* 2018;319:2227-2228.



# Lightning Review: Acute Stroke



NNT 3,  $p < 0.001$



NNT 9,  $p = 0.02$



NNT 8,  $p = 0.04$

# Case 2

56 y/o man presents with one week of worsening pleuritic chest pain with productive cough, fevers, and chills.

Tobacco, HTN, MDD, obesity

92/62, 108, 22, 101.2. Bilat wheezing, dec BS, normal fremitus.

EKG NSR with sinus tach

CXR clear

*Chest* 2018;153:601-610.

# CAP on CT: Reality Check

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*Chest* 2018;153:601-610.



# EPIC CT-CAP Initial Clinical

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# EPIC CT-CAP Initial Clinical

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# CAP on CT: Reality Check

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*Chest* 2018;153:601-610.

*Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2017, Issue  
10. Art. No.:CD007498.

# SALT-ED – Non-ICU

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*N Engl J Med* 2018;378:819-28.

# SALT-ED: Results

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# SALT-ED – Non-ICU

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*N Engl J Med* 2018;378:819-28.

# SMART – ICU

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*N Engl J Med* 2018;378:829-39.



# SMART: Results

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# SMART – ICU

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*N Engl J Med* 2018;378:829-39.

**Please see slide at  
presentation**

*Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2017, Issue  
12. Art. No.:CD007720.

*Clinical Infectious Disease* 2018;66:346-54.

# Steroids in CAP

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*Clinical Infectious Disease* 2018;66:346-54.

# Steroids in CAP: Results

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# Steroids in CAP: Harms

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# Steroids in CAP

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*Clinical Infectious Disease* 2018;66:346-54.

CID paper 6 studies; Cochrane 17 (Children = 4)

CID authors couldn't get IPD from 3 studies

CID paper exploration age, COPD, blood cultures, Strep pneumoniae, duration of steroids

Bottom line: do it to speed time to recovery, recognize the risks

# Case 2, cont.

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CT scan shows lingular infiltrate w/ air bronchograms, no effusion.

Start CTX, azithro, and empiric COPD rx.

HD #2, confused, agitated, tremulous...

*J Hospit Med* 2018;13:221-228.



# Lightning Review: Opioid Use Disorder





*Ann Intern Med* 2018;169:137-145.



*J Hospit Med* 2018;13:263-271.



# Lightning Review: Opioid Use Disorder





*JAMA* 2018;320:984-994.

*JAMA* 2018;320:984-994.

# Miscellaneous Short Takes

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*N Engl J Med* 2018;379:2407-16.

# Practice Summary

## Things to Do:

1. Check out 2017 ACC-AHA HTN Guidelines
2. Look for PE in syncope, although it's probably less common than previously thought
3. Idiopathic VTE: screen for ca with H&P and age appropriate screening
4. CT scan or US to dx PNA if CXR neg / mgnt  $\Delta$
5. Advocate for Procalcitonin algorithms

# Practice Summary

## Things to Do:

6. Select balanced crystalloids as a saline alternative, especially in the ICU / sepsis
7. Connect opiate use disorder patients with medical therapy options
8. Prescribe meropenem over pip/tazo in E coli or Klebsiella bacteremia if CTX resistant
9. Prescribe oral vanco or fidax for non-fulminant C diff instead of metro

# Practice Summary

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## Things to Do:

10. Advocate for lap chole vs. perc tube in high risk patients w/ acute cholecystitis

# Practice Summary

## Things to Consider:

1. Refer AF – CHF patients to EP for ablation
2. Naltrexone for ETOH use disorder
3. Edoxaban for Ca-VTE instead of LMWH, maybe not if upper GI malignancy
4. Apixaban as DOAC-max in AF
5. Steroids in CAP to hasten recovery
6. Zolendronate for osteopenia in women 65+

# Practice Summary

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## Things not to Do:

1. Refer for cath if not yet up-titrated on antianginals
2. Aspirin for primary prevention in adults 70 or older, even if diabetic...



# Thank you!



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