

References:

Toskes, PP, Hyperlipidemic pancreatitis, *Gastroenterol Clin N.A.* 1990; 19:783

Fortson MR et al., Clinical assessment of hyperlipidemic pancreatitis, *Am J Gastroenterol* 1995; 90:2134

Krauss RM and AG Levy, Subclinical chronic pancreatitis in type 1 hyperlipoproteinemia, *Am J Med* 1977; 62:144

FROM THE JOURNALS**Kyle Moylan MD**Prevention of Postoperative Pulmonary Complications:

Zarbock, A. et al., *Prophylactic Nasal Continuous Positive Airway Pressure Following Cardiac Surgery Protects from Post-operative Pulmonary Complications: A Prospective, Randomized, Controlled Trial in 500 Patients*, *Chest* 2009; 135:1252-1259

Compared with intermittent nasal CPAP, six hours of prophylactic nasal CPAP reduced pulmonary complications and ICU readmissions after elective cardiac surgery.

Long term consequences of acute delirium:

Fong, TG et al., *Delirium accelerates cognitive decline in Alzheimer's Disease*, *Neurology* 2009; 72:1570-1575

Delirium is typically described as a reversible confusional state but this study demonstrated that delirium was associated with an accelerated course of cognitive decline in older adults with Alzheimer's Disease. Efforts to prevent delirium in hospitalized older adults may have long term benefits.

Transitions of Care: Room for improvement and a Consensus Policy Statement:

Jencks, SF et al., *Rehospitalizations among patients in the Medicare Fee-for-Service Program*, *NEJM* 2009; 360:1418

Rehospitalizations were prevalent in this study, up to 34% within 90 days. Up to half of those rehospitalized in the first month had no bills submitted for an outpatient visit. The estimated cost to Medicare for rehospitalizations in 2004 was \$17.4 billion. Hospitalists can expect policy/reimbursement rules regarding this issue in the near future.

Snow, VS et al., Transitions of Care Consensus Policy statement by ACP, Society GIM, Society Hospital Medicine, Am Geriatrics Society, Am College Emergency Physicians, Society Academic Emergency Medicine:

<http://www.springerlink.com/content/e30wn8313124138j/?p=e558167b5f9d411b9c7d39b26417f5e2&pi=2>

ID CORNER**William Salzer MD**

Swine Flu: the words on everyone's lips. It is now referred to as Novel H1N1 influenza out of respect for pigs. But the New England Journal has published a whole issue on this subject, available online only:

http://content.nejm.org/early_release/#groupH1N1

Also, the CDC has a website devoted to this infection, which covers epidemiology, management of patients and outbreaks, etc:

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>