March 2018
Long Term Conditions

Articles

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A period prevalence study of being a parent in a secure psychiatric hospital and a description of the parents, the children and the impact of admission on parent–child contact.
[Most secure psychiatric hospital patients are of childbearing
age, but their parental status is minimally researched. The aim of the study is to describe the parent patients in one regional secure hospital and explore post-admission child–parent contact.]

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A person-centred communication approach to working with older people who have dementia.
[The main signs and symptoms of dementia include loss of memory, impaired thinking and problem-solving skills, and difficulties with communication. Effective communication in the healthcare setting will ensure patient care is safe and enable support workers to understand the needs of the older person with dementia.
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A systematic review of school-based interventions that include inhaler technique education.
[Evidence suggests that students benefit from school-based inhaler technique education; however, inconsistencies in how technique was measured limit our ability to draw firm conclusions regarding the effectiveness of inhaler technique education on student outcomes.]
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Antipsychotic reduction and/or cessation and antipsychotics as specific treatments for tardive dyskinesia.
[Limited data from small studies using antipsychotic reduction or specific antipsychotic drugs as treatments for TD did not
provide any convincing evidence of the value of these approaches. There is a need for larger trials of a longer duration to fully investigate this area.]

Freely available online

**Benefits and Harms of Cranial Electrical Stimulation for Chronic Painful Conditions, Depression, Anxiety, and Insomnia: A Systematic Review.**

[Evidence is insufficient that CES has clinically important effects on fibromyalgia, headache, neuromusculoskeletal pain, degenerative joint pain, depression, or insomnia; low-strength evidence suggests modest benefit in patients with anxiety and depression.]

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**Clinical rating systems in elbow research-a systematic review exploring trends and distributions of use.**
Evans JP. *Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery* 2018;;--.

[This study identified a wide choice and usage of clinical rating systems in the elbow literature. Numerous studies reported measures without a history of either a specific pathology or cross-cultural validation. Interpretability and comparison of outcomes is dependent on the unification of outcome measure choice. This was not demonstrated currently]

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**Constraint-induced aphasia therapy in post-stroke aphasia rehabilitation: A systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials.**

[Five RCTs showed that the CIAT performed equally well as other intensive aphasia therapies, in terms of improving language performance. One RCT showed that therapies embedded with social interaction were likely to enhance the
Diagnosis and management of hepatic encephalopathy.

[Overt and covert hepatic encephalopathy (HE) are debilitating complications of cirrhosis. HE results in a poor quality of life for patients and their caregivers and, unless there is access to liver transplantation, the prognosis is poor. The development of overt HE is often unpredictable, and its management, particularly in the ward, remains challenging. However, a non-absorbable antibiotic, rifaximin,* has been approved for the prevention of recurrent overt HE.]

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Effect of interventions incorporating personalised cancer risk information on intentions and behaviour: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials.

[Interventions incorporating personalised cancer risk information do not affect uptake of screening, but there is limited evidence of effect on some health-related behaviours. Further research, ideally including objective measures of behaviour, is needed before cancer risk information is incorporated into routine practice for health promotion in the general population.]

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Evidence for current recommendations concerning the management of foot health for people with chronic long-term conditions: a systematic review.

[Research focusing on management of foot health has become more evident over the past decade, especially related... ]
to chronic conditions such as diabetes. The aim of this systematic review was to assess the latest guidelines, standards of care and current recommendations relative to people with chronic conditions to ascertain the level of supporting evidence concerning the management of foot health.]

Freely available online

**Feasibility of a novel intervention to improve participation after stroke.**
[Stroke is a leading cause of serious, long-term disability in the United States. With shorter inpatient hospital stays, more time in rehabilitation is devoted to medical stabilization and less on skills to regain independence in daily activities. The transition home may be an opportunity for intervention focused on regaining independence. We propose an enhanced rehabilitation transition program called Community Participation Transition after Stroke.]

Freely available online

**Managing dysfunctional central venous access devices: a practical approach to urokinase thrombolysis.**
Kumwenda M. *British Journal of Nursing* 2018;27(2):S4-S10.
[Tunneled central venous access devices (CVADs) are defined as any intravenous multipurpose catheters placed within the central veins for use in haemodialysis and administration of blood products or chemotherapy in oncology and haematological conditions. Frequent complications include thrombosis and catheter-related infection, which may lead to significant adverse patient outcomes. Once thrombosis is suspected correction should be attempted empirically with thrombolytic agents.]

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Mini-Cog for the diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease dementia and other dementias within a primary care setting.
Seitz DP. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2018;(2):CD011415.
There is a limited number of studies evaluating the accuracy of the Mini-Cog for the diagnosis of dementia in primary care settings. Given the small number of studies, the wide range in estimates of the accuracy of the Mini-Cog, and methodological limitations identified in most of the studies, at the present time there is insufficient evidence to recommend that the Mini-Cog be used as a screening test for dementia in primary care.
Freely available online

Motor imagery training after stroke: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials.
A number of studies have suggested that imagery training (motor imagery (MI)) has value for improving motor function in persons with neurologic conditions. We performed a systematic review and meta-analysis to assess the available literature related to efficacy of MI in the recovery of individuals after stroke.
Freely available online

Personally tailored activities for improving psychosocial outcomes for people with dementia in long-term care.
Möhlen R. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2018;(2):CD009812.
Offering personally tailored activities to people with dementia living in care homes may slightly improve challenging behaviour when compared with usual care, although we did not find evidence that it was any better than offering activities which were not personally tailored.
Freely available online
Physical exercise improves strength, balance, mobility, and endurance in people with cognitive impairment and dementia: a systematic review.

Downs JM et al. Journal of clinical psychiatry 2017;78(9):e1233-e1241. [This study by South London and Maudsley and IOPPN authors (and others) uses data from 638 children and adolescents referred to mental health services in South London between 2008-2014. The authors conclude that children with first episode psychosis and comorbid ASD at first presentation are less likely to respond well to antipsychotics.] Freely available online

The effectiveness and safety of manual therapy on pain and disability in older persons with chronic low back pain: a systematic review.
de Luca KE. Journal of Manipulative and Physiological Therapeutics 2017;40(7):527-534. [The included studies provided moderate evidence supporting the use of manual therapy to reduce pain levels and alleviate disability.] Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible
The effectiveness of walking versus exercise on pain and function in chronic low back pain: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized trials.
[Walking is commonly recommended to relieve pain and improve function in chronic low back pain. The purpose of this study was to conduct a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials concerning the effectiveness of walking interventions compared to other physical exercise on pain, disability, quality of life and fear-avoidance, in chronic low back pain.]
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The Patient Centred Assessment Method for improving nurse-led biopsychosocial assessment of patients with long-term conditions: a feasibility RCT.
[This tool is feasible and acceptable for use by primary care nurses and has potential for encouraging biopsychosocial assessment of patients, but a full-scale RCT is not feasible.] Freely available online