



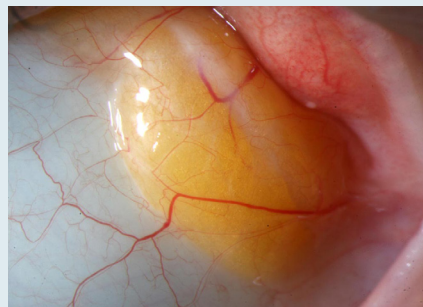
**An 11 year old girl injured her right foot with hot oil**  
**Try the picture quiz in ENDGAMES, p 463**

Sniff detection technology could be used to help disabled people write text and drive electric wheelchairs. The device measures precise movements of the soft palate, which receives signals from the cranial nerves that are often left unaffected by paralytic injuries. Scientists report that healthy people used the sniffing appliance as well as they used a mouse or joystick to play computer games, quadriplegic people were able to drive electric wheelchairs as well as healthy participants, and “locked-in” individuals were able to generate text (*Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 2010;107:14413-8, doi:10.1073/pnas.1006746107).

The theme of the May 2010 issue of *Reproductive Health Matters* was cosmetic surgery, body image, and sexuality (2010;18:11-28, www.rhm-elsevier.com). For the front cover image the editor chose a photograph of a plaster cast sculpture created from the vulvas of 40 women aged 18 to 76, including transgender people. The ensuing debate among the journal’s board members and authors before publication was vociferous and ultimately, to the editor’s disappointment, the majority of them didn’t support her; nor did the journal’s publisher offer to stand up for the journal if necessary had she proceeded. In the end the image appeared inside the journal.

A simple text messaging service that enables people with diabetes to record information that is essential to the management of their condition has been launched by Dialabetic, a UK based service. The data, such as daily blood sugar levels, are converted into easy to interpret graphs and can be shared by patients, healthcare professionals, and other authorised users in real time through a secure database. One benefit could be that professionals can spend less time reviewing records during patients’ visits and more on formulating personalised action plans. For more information email info@dialabetic.com.

Hedonic hunger—the drive to eat palatable foods in the absence of energy need—was assessed in obese patients who had undergone gastric bypass surgery and in those who had not (*American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* 2010;92:277-83, doi:10.3945/ajcn.2009.29007). By comparison with non-obese controls, severely obese patients displayed a marked increase in hedonic hunger that was not seen in patients who had undergone bypass surgery, as judged by the power of food scale,



A 16 year old girl presented to casualty with an asymptomatic, 4 mm, well circumscribed soft yellow lesion in the lateral aspect of her left eye. She had first noticed it about six months earlier. This lesion was an ocular dermolipoma, a subtype of ocular dermoid that is rare but easily diagnosed by appearance. It occurs more commonly in teenagers and tends to grow slowly compared with other subtypes. It is usually asymptomatic. Management is conservative because surgical removal can result in undesirable effects like conjunctival scarring, symblepharon (adhesion of eyelid to eyeball), pain, discomfort, and dry eyes. Malignant transformation is very rare.

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a questionnaire that measures an individual’s motivation to consume highly palatable foods. The operation seems to normalise excessive appetites.

Heat treatment of expressed milk seems to be a feasible option for feeding HIV-exposed uninfected children in rural Zimbabwe, as part of a programme to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV while promoting exclusive breast feeding until age 6 months. During the eight week follow-up period, no growth faltering was observed in children who were fed heat treated milk, and stigma seemed not to be a deterrent. In the context of support from family and health systems, such feeding provides a way to improve the diets of these children after direct breast feeding has stopped (*Journal of Nutrition* 2010;140:1481-8, doi:10.3945/jn.110.122457).

Osteolysis used to occur with conventional ultrahigh molecular weight polyethylene bearings in total hip replacement. Improved metal on metal

articulations were introduced to try and avoid the problem. One centre’s analysis of nine cases at post mortem found osteolysis or lymphocytic infiltration in eight low wear devices that had had good clinical function, suggesting that unappreciated femoral bone loss and local immunological response may occur frequently in patients with these metal on metal hip implants. In this series, the extent of osteolysis was similar to that seen with metal on polyethylene articulations (*Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery* 2010;92:1720-31, doi:10.2106/JBJS.I.00695).

Controversial data have been published on growth hormone axis disturbances in fibromyalgia. Now a study in almost 500 women with severe fibromyalgia reports that 34% had insulin-like growth factor-1 concentrations of 150 mg/l or less, and the mean baseline level of growth hormone was low in those who underwent an insulin tolerance test. All in all, this cohort showed a high prevalence of growth hormone axis dysfunction; many showed growth hormone deficiency and some degree of growth hormone resistance (*Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism* 2010, doi:10.1210/jc.2010-0061).

Having clogged up carotid arteries does not predict significant coronary, vertebral, or aortic atherosclerosis in patients with symptoms of acute ischaemic stroke. A prospective study of computed tomography angiography in 120 consecutive patients with symptoms of stroke found that 79% of those with substantial atherosclerotic disease had atheroma isolated to one type of artery—mostly to the coronary arteries. Less substantial atherosclerotic disease tends to be more systemic (*Stroke* 2010;41:1604-9, doi:10.1161/strokeaha.109.577437).

Does the menstrual cycle affect women’s haemodynamic response to laryngoscopy and tracheal intubation? A study recruited 62 women in different phases of the cycle and recorded their haemodynamic variables before administration of the intravenous anaesthetic and after tracheal intubation. Rate pressure values were calculated (heart rate multiplied by systolic blood pressure) and were found to be significantly increased in women who were in the luteal phase of their cycle compared with those in the follicular phase (*Anesth Analg* 2010;111:362-5, doi:10.1213/ANE.0b013e3181e62984).

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