

The Lucky Dip Dozen:

12 CLINICAL SNIPPETS WITH SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

- 1 Bell's palsy** can sometimes involve the trigeminal nerve, causing facial numbness
- 2 Whatever happened to the Coliforms?** Well, first they became *Klebsiella* for a bit, and then they got really fancy names, such as *Raoultella ornithinolytica*. Turns out the reason is mass spectrometry kit used by microbiologists called MALDI-TOF which analyses the "fingerprint" of specific bacterial genera, species & strains.
- 3 Cancer and transgender patients:** transgender women have a breast cancer risk that lies below cisgender women, but above cisgender men. Watch out for prostate cancer in older transgender women, too.
- 4 Rhabdomyolysis** is a normal response to exercise - don't confuse it with the situations where rhabdomyolysis is seen with AKI! For the latter, there's a scoring tool (the McMahon Score). Have a browse of this Twitter thread.
- 5 A Mitrofanoff Procedure** is a type of urostomy that avoids the need to wear a urostomy pouch. A urinary reservoir is fashioned from bowel (or the person's own bladder may be used as the reservoir) and there's a nifty valve arrangement, preventing urinary leakage and thus the person is continent.
- 6** Ever heard of **Skene Gland cysts**? Think Bartholin's cysts, but more anteriorly, near the external urethral meatus... recall that Bartholin gland cysts are typically positioned at the posterolateral vaginal introitus.
- 7** A myth-buster: yes, **IUDs can be inserted immediately postpartum**. The risk of expulsion and infection *is* slightly higher if inserted postpartum, but less if inserted within 48 hours of delivery.
- 8 Alpha-gal Syndrome** is meat allergy *induced by tick bites* (weird, huh?). It was only recognised in 2009. It is mostly seen in the USA, but there are cases in Europe. As climate change alters the pattern of tick distribution & interaction with humans, we'll need to be increasingly mindful of tick-borne problems in this country. Learn more here.
- 9 Flooring type does affect the risk of hip fractures**, with "wooden carpeted floors" the lowest risk. Also of note in this 2004 study, from 6641 falls in residential care homes, only 222 (3.3%) resulted in hip fractures.
- 10** Q - What's the link between the Think Aorta campaign and a Consultant Rheumatologist is trying to find your Resus room?
A - **Giant Cell Arteritis**. Which can involve the thoracic aorta: the potential for visual loss is *not* the only GCA-related emergency!
- 11 Lyme disease** can cause a surprisingly wide range of neurological problems (3-15% of Lyme infections) and may even present mimicking conditions such as Guillain-Barré syndrome. Your friendly neuro-physiologists can help to untangle such a picture!
- 12 Iron deficiency** can cause pica & restless legs.