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Cover Article

Rapid Response Team: Challenges, Solutions, Benefits
Kim Thomas, Mary VanOyen Force, Debbie Rasmussen, Dee Dodd, and Susan Whildin
Rapid response teams rely on nurses from the ICU to act as clinical experts at the bedside to assess a patient’s deteriorating condition. This article describes the challenges, solutions, and benefits discovered after implementation of a rapid response team in a small community hospital.

Clinical Articles

Sympathetic Storming After Severe Traumatic Brain Injury
Denise M. Lemke
The stress response known as sympathetic storming can occur within the first 24 hours after severe traumatic brain injury or up to weeks later. This article reviews the pathophysiology of sympathetic storming, variations in signs and symptoms, potential treatment options, and education of families.

Massive Pulmonary Embolism
Kathleen Shaughnessy
Massive pulmonary embolism in the setting of syncope and cardiac arrest is often fatal if not rapidly diagnosed. The author presents a case study of a patient with pulmonary embolism, and discusses risk factors, signs and symptoms, diagnostic findings, treatment goals, and patient education.

Special Feature

Impact of a Multifaceted Intervention on Nurses’ and Physicians’ Attitudes and Behaviors Toward Family Presence During Resuscitation
Patricia Mian, Susan Warchal, Susan Whitney, Joan Fitzmaurice, and David Tancredi

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