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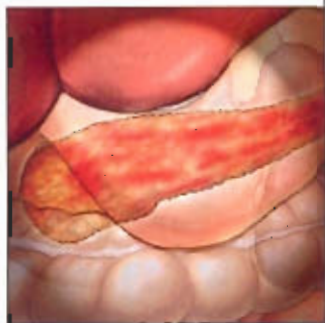
Bonus Content

GASTROINTESTINAL DISORDERS

44 Get Optimum Outcomes for Acute Pancreatitis Patients

Emmie Amerine, CRNP, MSN

Acute pancreatitis is the sudden onset of unrelenting upper abdominal pain resulting from inflammation of the pancreas. Predicting the severity and prognosis is essential in deciding if the patient requires aggressive treatment.



FDA Public Health Advisory

The April 2007 continuing education article, "Challenges in Constipation Management" indicates that tegaserod maleate (Zelnorm) is an appropriate treatment option for this condition. Soon after publication, the FDA issued a public health advisory to inform patients and healthcare professionals that tegaserod is being taken off the market due to findings that patients treated with the drug had a higher chance of heart attack, stroke, and worsening heart chest pain that can become a heart attack. More information is available at <http://www.fda.gov>.

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The Nurse Practitioner: The American Journal of Primary Healthcare (ISSN 0881-1817) is published 12 times per year (monthly) by Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Periodicals postage paid at Hagerstown, MD, and additional mailing offices. Subscription Information: Individual Rates: \$57.95 a year in the U.S. and \$119 a year elsewhere. Institutional Rates: \$209 a year in the U.S. and \$249 a year elsewhere. Student Rate: \$29 a year (U.S. only). All subscription rates are payable in U.S. funds. Send subscription orders and address change information to: *The Nurse Practitioner*, P.O. Box 4550, Hagerstown, MD, 21740. Single copies and back issues \$7. Claims for missing issues can be ordered only up to 3 months for domestic addresses, 6 months for foreign addresses. Duplicate copies will not be sent to replace ones undelivered through failure to notify Lippincott Williams & Wilkins of change of address.

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POSTMASTER: Send change of address to *The Nurse Practitioner*, P.O. Box 1550, Hagerstown, MD, 21740.

Publications Mail Agreement No. 80046735. Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to: Circulation Dept. or DPGA, 4960-2 Walker Road, Windsor, ON N9A 6J3.

The Nurse Practitioner is indexed...

in the *Cumulative Index to Nursing & Allied Health Literature (CINAHL)*, *Index Medicus*, *Nursing Abstracts*, *IMDEX Top 100 Hospital Literature Index*, *International Nursing Index*, *International Pharmaceutical Abstracts*, and the *Socio/Economic Bibliographic Information Base*.

