

Medical Updates:

Disaster texts

Two mobile phone operators in Bangladesh have agreed to provide state-generated text messages that warn people in the most vulnerable areas of impending natural disasters. (www. The lancet. com Vol 374 July 4, 2009)

Insulin and Cancer

The European Association for the study of Diabetes (EASD) has called for more research after studies from Germany, Sweden, and the UK revealed a possible link between the use of insulin glargine (an insulin analogue) and increased risk of cancer. The studies are not conclusive, and EASD stresses that patients should continue using insulin until more evidence from other countries becomes available. (www. The lancet. com Vol 374 July 4, 2009)

Health related problems in indigenous people

Indigenous people have much higher rates of infection than do their non-indigenous counterparts and these infections are likely to be more severe or frequently more fatal in indigenous groups. Skin infections are very common, especially in children. (www. The lancet.com vol 374 July 4, 2009)

Audit of a pain and palliative unit in Bangladesh conference Report on palliative care and public health on January 2011 in BSMMU, Dhaka Bangladesh Speech given by Farzana Khan.

The commonest reason for seeking palliative care was pain. 63% patients needed to start with oral morphine. Major concern of 96% of patients was care of family. Institutional approach can reduce the physical symptom burden but fails to ensure continuity of care and psychosocial symptoms of burden.

Investigational drug promising uterine fibroids.

A Selective preceptor modulator autiprogestin effects, CDB-2914, reduces uterine fibroid size and bleeding and improves quality of life in affected women, according to a report published online November in fertility and sterility. (Source: Fertil Steril, November 5, 2010, Abstract)