

Current Pharma News

1. Cancer mortality continues steady decline, driven by progress against lung cancer

Date: January 8, 2020

Source: American Cancer Society

Summary: The cancer death rate declined by 29 percent from 1991 to 2017, including a 2.2 percent drop from 2016 to 2017, the largest single-year drop in cancer mortality ever reported, according to the American Cancer Society's annual report on cancer rates and trends.

2. Long work hours at the office linked to both regular and hidden high blood pressure

Date: December 19, 2019

Source: American Heart Association

Summary: Office workers who logged 49-plus hours on the job weekly were 70% more likely to have a hidden form of high blood pressure called masked hypertension, compared to people who work less than 35 hours per week. Masked hypertension is high blood pressure that doesn't appear during a regular blood pressure test at a medical visit and thus, often goes undetected.

3. Home hospital reduces costs, improves care

Date: December 16, 2019

Source: Brigham and Women's Hospital

Summary: The results of the investigators' randomized controlled trial with more patients strengthens the evidence, showing that home hospital care reduced cost, utilization, and readmissions while increasing physical activity compared with usual hospital care.

4. More than 1 in 3 low- and middle-income countries face both extremes of malnutrition

Date: December 16, 2019

Source: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Summary: Being undernourished or overweight are no longer separate public health issues. A new article details how more than one in three low- and middle-

income countries face both extremes of malnutrition - a reality driven by the modern food system.

5. Excessive antibiotic prescriptions for children in low-, middle-income countries

Date: December 14, 2019

Source: Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Summary: Between 2007 and 2017, children in eight low- and middle-income countries received, on average, 25 antibiotic prescriptions from birth through age 5 up to five times higher than the already high levels observed in high-income settings. The number of antibiotic prescriptions for young children ranged from one per year for children in Senegal to 12 per year for children in Uganda.

6. Focus on food security and sustainability

Date: December 11, 2019

Source: University of Bonn

Summary: The numbers of malnourished people is increasing worldwide. More than two billion people suffer from lack of micronutrients. Infant mortality rates are unacceptably high. Against this background, there is a need for the global pooling of research efforts, more research funding and an international body for food security and agriculture that will prepare policy decisions.

7. Regional trends in overdose deaths reveal multiple opioid epidemics

Date: December 10, 2019

Source: Iowa State University

Summary: The United States in the grip of several simultaneously occurring opioid epidemics, rather than just a single crisis. The epidemics came to light after the researchers analyzed county-level data on drug overdose deaths. The study highlights the importance of different policy responses to the epidemics rather than a single set of policies.

8. Dramatic health benefits following air pollution reduction

Date: December 6, 2019

Source: American Thoracic Society

Summary: Reductions in air pollution yielded fast and dramatic impacts on health-outcomes, as well as decreases in all cause of morbidity, according to new findings.

9. BPA levels in humans dramatically underestimated, study finds

Date: December 5, 2019

Source: Washington State University

Summary: Researchers have developed a more accurate method of measuring bisphenol A (BPA) levels in humans and found that exposure to the endocrine-disrupting chemical is far higher than previously assumed. The study provides the first evidence that the measurements relied upon regulatory agencies, including the US Food and Drug Administration, are flawed, underestimating exposure levels by as much as 44 times.

References: www.sciencedaily.com

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