ENDOCRINE CONSULT

34 To Cut or Not to Cut?
Evaluating Surgical Criteria for Benign & Nondiagnostic Thyroid Nodules

Thyroid cancer is the most rapidly increasing cancer in the US, making accurate evaluation and treatment of nodules crucial. This case study explores the evaluation of a thyroid nodule and outlines when thyroidectomy is recommended.

Ashlyn Smith, MMS, PA-C

9 YOUR TURN
Did Somebody Say “Precepting”?
Rarely have so many people had so much to say about a single topic (at least, one that does not involve national politics). But Marie-Eileen Onieal’s editorial on precepting struck a nerve with many readers.

11 DERMADIAGNOSIS
1-800-Zap-My-Zits
A 52-year-old man self-diagnosed his round, scaly lesions as acne, but when the pimple cream he ordered from a TV ad only makes matters worse, he seeks professional help. Can you correctly diagnose his condition?

Joe R. Monroe, MPAS, PA

13 RADIOLOGY REVIEW
An Alarming Slip of the Hip
While getting out of bed, an 80-year-old woman slips and falls. She arrives at the emergency department complaining of hip pain. See what a pelvic radiograph reveals.

Nandan R. Hichkad, PA-C, MMSc

14 FROM THE PA EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Terrorist Activity: Are You Ready?
Judging by the attacks that have occurred so far in 2016, the message from terrorists is clear: You are not safe—anywhere. Do you know what to do to protect yourself and others in the event of an emergency?

Randy D. Danielsen, PhD, PA, DFAAPA

21 ECG CHALLENGE
An Exhausting Case of “Smoker’s Cough”
A 67-year-old woman presents with a nonproductive cough, chest discomfort, and increasing fatigue—symptoms that impede her daily activity and prevent her from gardening. An ECG explains all.

Lyle W. Larson, PhD, PA-C

22 GRAND ROUNDS
Extreme Athlete, 18, With Worsening Cough
Sinus congestion and a sleep-disrupting cough are just a few of the symptoms this 18-year-old college student reports. Her racing heart, shortness of breath, and blurred vision make her rigorous exercise routine impossible to maintain. What is causing her debilitating symptoms?

Carol L. Rizzolo, PA, PhD,
Marie-Eileen Onieal, PhD, CPNP, FAANP

continued on next page >>
Quick Poll
Scroll down on our home page to take this poll

Which of the following characteristics indicates a “likely benign” thyroid nodule?

- a. Purely cystic
- b. Tall > wide
- c. Irregular margins
- d. Microcalcifications

For more on this topic, turn to page 34.

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