

Letters to the Editor

Dermatophytes Tinea Cruris in Karachi

Dear Madam,

Reference JPMA September 1975 "Dermatophytes Tinea cruris in Karachi." Kindly publish my observation in your esteemed journal.

Dr. Saeed Haroon has done a great service to the people and profession by highlighting the problem of skin infection specially of fungal origin. This very rapidly increasing menace of skin diseases has presented an appreciable problem with family physicians. Insanitary conditions, contact and contamination, malnutrition, lack of health education and above all superstition, magic cure advertisements and lack of facilities for proper diagnosis and then prolonged, annoying and costly treatment are the causes of the sufferings and undesirable nuisance through these diseases.

In my observation male female ratio of sufferers is not so wide as mentioned by you for which the reason being our socio-cultural constrains like shyness and avoidance to exposure the effected parts for examination. Waist line, below and around the breast and other folds and areas around genitalia modestly called Poshida (exposable) are mostly effected.

As general practitioners we are not so fortunate in going for pathological diagnosis

nor is really so absolutely necessary in our socio-economic handicaps but such authentic reminder as the present article is most helpful welcome. Actually, what we really need more, is clinical approach, symptomatic and other easily recognizable expertise and simple management. Corticosteriod preparations and 'atom bomb' for dermatology as being used or misused in our country has so far played a "Hiroshima effect" more due to craze for prescribing by doctors on the obstinate demand of patients and nearly forced down the throat by the powerful media of pharmaceutical salesmanship respectfully called medical detailing.

There is "Need" and "Want" in medicine for proper management and in our country the detrimental "want" prevails over the "need". Do you know why? Besides medical nemesis and latrogenicities lack of continuing education of prescriber and health education of the clients is the real cause. At least on this account we would like you and all our specialist colleagues to write original, review articles and educative material on common diseases as seen by them in their practice locally and not through foreign material and knowledge they happen to possess more than the indigenous experience. Clinical approach, simple and improvised, diagnosis, compliable management and treatment is what we need for better patient care in Pakistan.

Your's

Naqvi Clinic, Bara Maidan,
Nazimabad, Karachi.

S. H. Naqvi,

METAMEDICINE

Dear Madam,

In February 1980, D. Reidel Publishing Company will launch a new journal entitled "METAMEDICINE". The aim of the journal is to provide a forum for interdisciplinary studies in the philosophy and methodology of medical research and practice. The enclosed leaflet will give you full information on the journal.

We feel that your readers should be informed of this forthcoming journal, not only because it is unique in its field, but because "METAMEDICINE" will be of absorbing interest to them. Accordingly, we would be very grateful if you would run an 'announcement' in your journal and notify your readers of "METAMEDICINE'S" impending launch. You may use the enclosed material to do this.

If your list of subscribers is available for direct mail purpose we would appreciate receiving a copy of your latest list. If costs are involved, please let us know first.

Thank you for your valuable help. If you have any queries or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Your's

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Sales and Promotion
Manager,

SIR ROBERT GRANT'S BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

Dear Madam,

We are celebrating 200th birth centenary of Sir Robert Grant on 13th, 14th and 15th January, 1980. Sir Robert Grant after whom the Grant Medical College is named was largely responsible for establishing the College.

We who feel to be proud products of this College wish to celebrate this occasion in a fitting manner. As preliminary we are preparing a list of all GMCITES so that we can invite them for this function. Before the partition there was only one medical college from Karachi to Karwar and therefore many old GMCITES must be practising in Pakistan and some of them must be holding high posts. Through your esteemed columns we would like to approach them and request them to send me their names and addresses at an early date.

Your's

N. G. Talwalkar,

153-B, Hindoo Colony, Hon. Secretary,
Matunga, Bombay,
India.