

Peter L. Bailey, M.D., CME Editor

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Instructions for Obtaining Journal CME Credit

ANESTHESIOLOGY's journal-based CME program is open to all readers. Members of the American Society of Anesthesiologists participate at a preferred rate, but you need not be an ASA member or a journal subscriber to take part in this CME activity. Please complete the following steps:

1. Read the article by Charbit *et al.* entitled "Prolongation of QTc interval after postoperative nausea and vomiting treatment by droperidol or ondansetron" on page 1094 and the accompanying editorial by Scuderi entitled "You (still) can't disprove the existence of dragons" on page 1081 of this issue.
2. Review the questions and other required information for CME program completion (published in both the print and online journal).
3. When ready, go to the CME Web site: <http://www.asahq.org/journal-cme>. Submit your answers, form of payment, and other required information by December 31 of the year following the year of publication.

The American Society of Anesthesiologists is approved by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians.

The American Society of Anesthesiologists designates this continuing medical education program for a maximum of 1 hour of Category 1 credit toward the AMA's Physician Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those hours of credit actually spent in the activity.

Purpose: The focus of the journal-based CME pro-

gram, and the articles chosen for the program, is to educate readers on current developments in the science and clinical practice of the specialty of Anesthesiology.

Target Audience: Physicians and other medical professionals whose medical specialty is the practice of anesthesia.

Learning Objectives: After reading the articles related to this program, participants should have a better understanding of QT prolongation, the drugs that can produce it, and the clinical implications in surgical patients.

Disclosure Information:

Authors - Phillip E. Scuderi, M.D.

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Consultants or honoraria: None

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Authors - Beny Charbit, M.D., Pierre Albaladejo, M.D., Ph.D., Christian Funck-Brentano, M.D., Ph.D., Mathieu Legrand, M.D., Emmanuel Samain, M.D., Ph.D., and Jean Marty, M.D., Ph.D.

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Question Writer - Peter L. Bailey, M.D.

Dr. Bailey has no grants, research support, or consultant positions, nor does he receive any honoraria from outside sources, which may create conflicts of interest concerning this CME program.

CME Article Questions

Based on the article by Charbit *et al.* entitled "Prolongation of QTc interval after postoperative nausea and vomiting treatment by droperidol or ondansetron" and its accompanying editorial by Scuderi entitled "You (still)

can't disprove the existence of dragons" in the June issue of ANESTHESIOLOGY, choose the one correct answer for each question:

continued...

1. Which statement concerning the Prescription Drug User Fee Act of 1992 is *most likely* true?
 - A. It allows the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to add a surcharge to the fee paid by patients when they purchase prescription drugs.
 - B. It has reduced conflicts of interest between the FDA and pharmaceutical companies.
 - C. It was intended to help expedite FDA approval of new drugs.
 - D. It allows pharmaceutical companies to file complaints when drug approval by the FDA takes too long.

2. Which statement concerning droperidol and QT prolongation is *most likely* true?
 - A. Droperidol is unique in its ability to prolong the QT interval.
 - B. QT prolongation associated with droperidol administration is common (>5%).
 - C. Droperidol-induced QT prolongation has been demonstrated to result in polymorphic ventricular tachycardia (torsades de pointes).
 - D. Deaths from droperidol-induced arrhythmias have been reported in the medical literature.

3. Which statement concerning 5-HT₃ antagonists is *most likely* true?
 - A. They do not prolong the QT interval.
 - B. They have not been reported to produce cardiac arrhythmias.
 - C. They induce QT prolongation by a mechanism which is similar to that of droperidol.
 - D. Unlike droperidol, they do not block the rapid component of the delayed rectifier potassium current (I_{Kr}).

4. Which statement concerning QT prolongation in patients during the immediate postoperative phase is *most likely* true?
 - A. QT prolongation in patients experiencing nausea and vomiting is uncommon (<2%).
 - B. Hypothermia is associated with prolongation of the QT interval.
 - C. Duration of anesthesia is inversely associated with prolongation of the QT interval.
 - D. Prolongation of the QT interval does not occur until 90 minutes after the administration of droperidol.

5. Which statement concerning the potential for drugs to prolong the QT interval is *most likely* true?
 - A. Potent inhaled anesthetics have not been associated with prolonged QT interval.
 - B. Propofol does not prolong the QT interval.
 - C. Succinylcholine does not prolong the QT interval.
 - D. Most currently available antiemetics can prolong the QT interval.

All tests and requests for Category 1 credit must be submitted through the ANESTHESIOLOGY CME Web site at <http://www.asahq.org/journal-cme>. Participants should claim credit, in 15-minute increments, for a maximum of 1 hour of CME credit per journal issue (up to 12 credits per year). Two payment options are available:

Per-year fee: ASA Members \$60.00, Non-members \$90.00
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For either option, participants may pay using VISA or MasterCard.

If you have any questions regarding the ANESTHESIOLOGY continuing medical education program, please contact Jennifer Braun at (847) 825-5586 or via e-mail at j.braun@asahq.org.