

tional needs and feedback that is gratuitously hurtful or devaluing.

Kravcik asserts that most sexist jokes, unwanted compliments, offensive body language and sexist teaching material are "innocuous." We presented residents with a menu of behaviour in the workplace that they may have or may not have experienced as abusive or harassing. Substituting our judgement of these events for the judgement of those who lived through the experiences would not only be patronizing but would also be bad research.

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New drug to prevent NSAID-related ulcers

I found the recent special supplement "An evidence-based approach to prescribing NSAIDs in musculoskeletal disease: a Canadian consensus" (*Can Med Assoc J* 1996; 155:77-88), by Dr. Hyman Tannenbaum and colleagues, very informative. The recommendations included the coadministration of misoprostol when nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) are indicated for patients at high risk of peptic ulcers. The evidence for the special supplement was collected in late 1995. Since then, the results of a randomized trial that studied the efficacy of famotidine for the prevention of gastric and duodenal ulcers caused by NSAIDs in patients with arthritis have been reported.¹ [Results of this study are reported in the

International Digest section of this issue (see page 1103). — Ed.] Treatment with high-dose famotidine significantly reduced the incidence of ulcers at both sites. Do the authors think that coadministration of this drug or class of drugs should also be recommended for high-risk patients, especially for those who cannot tolerate misoprostol?

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Reference

1. Taha AS, Hudson N, Hawkey C, et al. Famotidine for the prevention of gastric and duodenal ulcers caused by nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. *N Engl J Med* 1996;334:1435-9.

[One of the authors responds:]

Misoprostol has been shown to prevent NSAID-associated gastric and duodenal ulcers but is associated with a high incidence of diarrhea, necessitating discontinuation of therapy. Taha and associates have shown that famotidine, a histamine H₂-receptor antagonist, prevents NSAID-induced gastrointestinal complications significantly in patients taking long-term NSAID therapy. It may therefore be a reasonable alternative for patients who cannot tolerate misoprostol.

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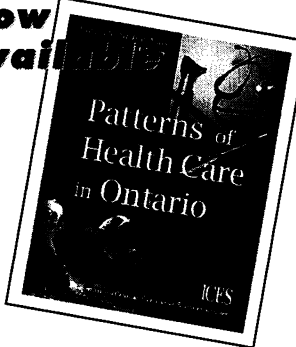
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Hyponatremia and SIADH [correction]

In the article "Hyponatremia and the syndrome of inappropriate secretion of antidiuretic hormone associated with the use of selective

serotonin reuptake inhibitors: a review of spontaneous reports," by Dr. Barbara A. Liu and colleagues (*Can Med Assoc J* 1996;155:519-27), the first line under the heading "Data synthesis" in the abstract should have read "A total of 736 cases of hyponatremia . . ." (correction in italics). The corresponding line under the heading "Synthèse des données" in the résumé should have read "On a signalé au total 736 cas d'hyponatremie . . ." We apologize for these errors. — Ed.

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