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Hormonal Contraceptives and Depression

Sept 2016 - Copenhagen, Denmark

Hormonal contraceptives have been clinically proven to influence mood, but their association with depression has been largely unaddressed until now. Danish researchers sought to determine if hormonal contraceptives are positively linked to the use of antidepressants. In a prospective case-cohort study, researchers discovered that hormonal contraceptives were associated with the subsequent use of antidepressants and first diagnoses of depression, especially among adolescents.

4

Nobel Prize in Medicine

Oct 2016 - Tokyo, Japan

The 2016 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine was awarded to molecular biologist Yoshinori Ohsumi for his research in the field of autophagy, the process by which cells digest and recycle their components. At the Tokyo Institute of Technology, Ohsumi used microscopy images of yeast cells to determine the mechanism of autophagy.

5

Sepsis and Antimicrobial Resistance

Oct 2016 - Delhi, India

Sepsis, a systemic infection, is one of the leading global causes of neonatal deaths. Researchers followed sepsis-vulnerable neonates born in tertiary care centres in Delhi, India and tested them for antimicrobial susceptibility. They found an alarmingly high incidence of sepsis and antimicrobial resistance in neonates born in tertiary hospitals. These findings highlight the importance of designing global strategies to reduce sepsis-related neonatal deaths in developing nations.

7

Deadly and Undetectable

Sept 2016 - Taif, Saudi Arabia

From late August to early September, a concerning number of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) cases were reported in Taif and surrounding cities in Saudi Arabia. MERS is a viral respiratory disease caused by a coronavirus. Initial symptoms include fever, cough, and shortness of breath, but what makes MERS deadly are its nonspecific symptoms. Following five particularly severe cases, the World Health Organization issued an urgent recommendation to implement control measures to prevent the spread of MERS.

6

Rising Obesity in Australia

Sept 2016 - Sydney, Australia

A study conducted by the University of Sweden hypothesizes that the obesity rate among Australian adults will increase from 28 to 35 percent by the year 2025. Researchers suggest that approximately 13 percent of the population in 2025 will fall under the 'severely obese' category. In other words, one in eight individuals will have a BMI of over 35.