

Letters Correspondance

Screening for alcohol abuse

The evidence-based memory aid for the periodic health examination¹ looks wonderfully user-friendly and convenient. I would like to comment on the strategy for the detection of problem drinking and alcohol addiction. The approach noted in **Figure 1** of the article appears to be that recommended by the College of Family Physicians of Canada.² A nice study showed that the CAGE questionnaire's sensitivity is enhanced if preceded by a simple open-ended question rather than by pointed questions about the drinking pattern.³ It might be prudent to inquire about drinking volume and frequency following rather than before the CAGE questions.

—E.H. Krikke, MD, CCFP, FCFP
Edmonton, Alta
by e-mail

References

1. Milone SD, Lopes Milone S. Evidence-based periodic health examination of adults. Memory aid for primary care physicians. *Can Fam Physician* 2006;52:40-7.
2. Peters C, Wilson D, Bruneau A, Butt P, Hart S, Mayhew J. Alcohol risk assessment and intervention for family physicians. Project of the College of Family Physicians of Canada. *Can Fam Physician* 1996;42:681-9.
3. Steinweg DL, Worth H. Alcoholism: the keys to the CAGE. *Am J Med* 1993;94:520-3.

Correction

There were errors in the text of two of the Snapshots articles in the December issue (*Can Fam Physician* 2005;51:1717). The correct text appears below. *Canadian Family Physician* apologizes for these errors and for any embarrassment they might have caused.

Physicians of the Year

Prince Edward Island's Family Physician of the Year Peter MacKean—a former National President of the College—congratulates fellow winner John Brewer (far right), New Brunswick's Family Physician of the Year, during the Maritime Conjoint Scientific Assembly in Charlottetown, PEI. Not present at the sessions was the Nova Scotia Family Physician of the Year, John McNab of Fall River (near right). The three physicians are recipients of Reg L. Perkin Awards from the College of Family Physicians of Canada.

—Doug Payne
On location in Charlottetown, PEI

Dr Krishan Sethi

Manitoba's Family Physician of the Year

Dr Krishan Sethi (right) is congratulated by College President Dr Alain Pavilanis for being named Family

Physician of the Year for Manitoba. Dr Sethi is one of 10 physicians from across the country who are slated to receive Reg L. Perkin Awards as Canada's Family Physicians of the Year at Family Medicine Forum 2005 in Vancouver, BC. Dr Sethi was named at the Annual General Meeting of the Manitoba College, which took place last April in Winnipeg, Man.

Dr Sethi, who did his postgraduate work in Scotland, has been practising in Flin Flon since 1980. He said he knew little about Canada when he was preparing to come here and simply asked his travel agent for "a one-way ticket to Flin Flon." He has a comprehensive family practice that includes obstetrics and anesthesia services.

Dr Sethi was nominated for the Family Physician of the Year award by his secretary, Rosario Kirkham; 404 of his patients in Flin Flon sent letters supporting his nomination. In accepting the honour, Dr Sethi thanked Ms Kirkham (who along with his wife, Poomidevi, attended the ceremony), his family, and all his patients for believing in him.

—Primrose Ketchum
On location in Winnipeg, Man