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Potential additions to the Greig Health Record for Young Adults

The Greig Health Record for Young Adults is a terrific resource and I applaud the authors of the article in the August issue of Canadian Family Physician for putting it together.1 Two potential additions missing from the current iterations of this record are the inclusion of extragenital testing for gonorrhea and chlamydia (throat or rectal swabs, indicated for at-risk individuals including men who have sex with men) and HIV prevention methods for individuals at risk of HIV (nonoccupational post-exposure prophylaxis counseling and HIV preexposure prophylaxis counseling for at-risk men who have sex with men). The 2017 HIV preexposure prophylaxis guidelines by Tan et al in CMAJ have further details on the latter.2

> —James R.M. Owen MD CCFP Toronto, Ont

Competing interests

None declared

References

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Disappointing choice of cover image

was disappointed by your choice of cover image for the August issue of Canadian Family Physician. 1 It depicts an attractive young woman, heavily but tastefully made up, holding up a blue procedure mask stained with her lipstick. On her face is a neutral expression that could be interpreted in various ways. The title underneath it reads, "Unique challenges faced by early career female physicians."

While the article highlighted in the cover story accurately and insightfully identifies some of these challenges, this poor choice of cover image suggests to any outside observer who might encounter the publication that female physicians consider makeup transfer onto procedure masks to be an important issue in their practice, and that the article itself (in the vein of a 1950s women's magazine) is dedicated to helping circumvent this. Not only does this diminish the College of Family Physicians of Canada's position on its female membership in the eye of the public, but it also ridicules the article and one of the main points it is trying to make: that female physicians (especially young ones) often have difficulty being taken seriously.

I do not wish to impugn the photo itself, or the photographer. Entitled Defiantly Feminine, the photograph itself is well composed, and taken separately from the article it depicts a strong message that I interpret as "I'm a doctor and a young woman, and I have no apologies to make for either."