Neurosurgical forum

Patients after severe head injury. We believe that steroid therapy for severely head-injured patients does not afford benefit, and indeed in patients with raised intracranial pressure it may be contraindicated.

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Sympathetic Blockade for Causalgic Pain: Correction

To The Editor: Recently we became aware of a mistake in our article published some time ago in the Journal Leipzig T, Mullah SF: Causalgic pain relieved by prolonged procaine amide sympathetic blockade. Case report. J Neurosurg 60:1095-1096, May 1984). We treated this patient and others with similar problems by using a constant infusion of 1% procaine hydrochloride (Novocain) without preservatives. The use of the words “procaine amide” throughout the article is incorrect. Although procainamide does have local anesthetic properties, it is not useful for a nerve block. We regret this obvious error and extend our apologies for any confusion this may have caused.

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Failure to Cite Source

To The Editor: While I am happy to permit Dr. Houser and his colleagues to use my drawing (Fig. 1) in their article (Houser OW, Onofrio BM, Forbes GS, et al: Correlation of radiological features to failure of lumbar intervertebral disc chemonucleolysis. J Neurosurg 64:736-742, May, 1986), it would have been proper to give credit to the artist and authors of the paper in which the figure originally appeared.1 My name appears on the drawing.

Joseph A. Epstein, M.D.
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Reference


Response: Our failure to acknowledge Dr. Epstein’s illustration and the paper in which it appeared was an unfortunate, unintentional oversight, since we obviously believe both are excellent. Please accept our apology.

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