New video evidence links trunk and knee motion in non-contact ACL injury

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Welcome to this almost summer issue of BJSM packed chock full with solutions. Please also make sure you checked last month’s “ACL issue!” as well the bumper Concussion supplement. Continuing the anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) theme—because who can get enough of that—Associate Editor Hewitt provides another jewel in his crown of contributions that aim to make ACL history. Last month, he and newly-minted PhD Carmen Quatman reviewed the arguments for the valgus forces being the primary mechanism in women; this contrasts with the “sagittal plane” forces theory. That certainly stirred the pot!

BRAND NEW ACL DATA!
This month comes the second punch of this flurry—original data showing clearly that in women ACL injury occurred when the combination of lateral trunk and knee abduction angles were greater than those adopted by ACL-injured male athletes and uninjured female athletes. Before leaving the ACL issue—thanks for the e-mails about the surgical controversy—which graft to use, patellar tendon versus hamstring; and a reminder to check out BJSM’s podcast on that issue and ACL rehab featuring global gurus Professors Elizabeth Arendt and Lars Engebretsen.

SHOULDER EXAM AND THEME ISSUE
For some folk, there is more to sport than the ACL. BJSM’s systematic review of shoulder examination continues to reign at the “top of the pops” (now that is revealing my vintage—our Twitter generation won’t recognise that halcyon 70’s phrase). Because of the everyday relevance of shoulder problems, BJSM’s February 2010 issue is about the “sporting shoulder.” Please ignore the Lancet and send high quality research, reviews or key editorial pieces to the BJSM online editorial office at http://submit-bjsm.bmj.com by 1 September 2009. Guest editors Babette Pluim, Robert van Cingel and Ben Kibler are particularly keen on papers that provide immediate or short-term clinical application so that clinicians can better manage patients with shoulder pain and injuries. This fits with the BJSM commitment to “innovation, education and translation.”

GROIN PAIN SERIES: “GLUTEAL TRIANGLE”
Our virtual groin theme issue—groin papers spread across a series of 2008 and 2009 issues—downloads heavily each month. This month you can gain new insight into some challenging anatomy—the “gluteal triangle.” Read it here and if you like the approach you can also review the popular “groin triangle” paper. More great papers to follow—check them online first or wait by your door for BJSM to come through the mail slot.

TENDINOPATHY: A NEW MANAGEMENT APPROACH
Thanks to Jill Cook for editing the well-received and clinically relevant April tendinopathy issue. And in this current issue you can read her explanations as to why sometimes an injured tendon responds to more loading—and other times why it needs relative rest. This paper is certainly a Masterclass and I predict it will have a big impact on how clinicians will manage tendinopathy. Please check it out and share your thoughts and experience via the e-letters or blog.

IOC LINKS WITH BJSM FOR FOUR ADDITIONAL ISSUES PER YEAR!
I am delighted that BJSM readers will gain four additional issues per year courtesy of the International Olympic Committee (IOC). There will be additional journal issues in September and December 2009 to “promote the health of the athlete.” From 2010 onwards, BJSM will publish four additional journal issues per year (16 issues per year plus any supplements—great value for readers!). You’ll hear more about this liaison in the journal and on the blog, but kudos to Professor Lars Engebretsen for making this enterprise happen and to guest editors Jon Drezer and Babette Pluim for steering the first of these theme issues—sports cardiology in September’s BJSM.

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REFERENCES

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