

report, and our own, is that we should watch attrition data carefully and *not* over estimate the number leaving our specialty. Our approach to Emergency Medicine's work force needs is important for our specialty's success. If attrition is lower than expected, we should guard against over supply by decreasing the number of training programs. I believe burnout is an exaggerated aspect of Emergency Medicine practice. However, if physician supply is allowed to exceed demand, burnout will increase. This new market place burnout will be due to the devalued specialty of Emergency Medicine where salaries and job satisfaction are lower than ever before.

William K. Mallon, MD, FACEP
 Director of Residency Training
 LAC+USC Medical Center
 Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine
 USC School of Medicine
 Los Angeles, California
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☐ **Communicating rupture of pulmonary hydatid cysts with resulting acute respiratory distress syndrome**

In humans, 25% of hydatid cysts are found in the lungs. Rupture of the cyst is among the more frequently encountered complications (1). Communicating rupture occurs as a result of bronchioles being incorporated into the pericyst; minor forms of anaphylaxis, usually in the form of rash or urticaria, may occur in up to 25% of cases (2). More rarely, bronchospasm and shock may occur (3). A recent paper claims that acute respiratory distress syndrome resulting from intrabronchial cyst rupture has never been described before (4). Between 1990 and 1997, 165 children aged 2-16 years who had pulmonary hydatid disease were admitted to our Department. Sixteen (19.8%) presented with intrabronchial cyst rupture

and in this group, three (1.8%) developed acute respiratory distress syndrome requiring ventilatory and inotrope support for 3, 8, and 11 days, respectively. Four other patients (1.2%) required inotrope support and oxygen using facemask instead of intubation; they spent 2 (two patients), 4, and 5 days, respectively, in the Intensive Care Unit. All patients underwent curative surgery after respiratory and cardiocirculatory stabilization; there was no morbidity and no mortality.

As demonstrated by these results, acute respiratory distress syndrome resulting from intrabronchial rupture of pulmonary cysts appears to be more frequently encountered than once thought. In an endemic region such as Bulgaria (5), rupture of pulmonary hydatid cyst should be included among the list of causes of acute respiratory distress syndrome. Likewise, this pathology should be borne in mind when evaluating an immigrant from an endemic area in nonendemic regions.

Vesselina Michaylova, MD, PhD, DSc
 Chief, Department of Pediatric Thoracic Surgery
 "Pirogov" Emergency Medical Center,
 PO Box 159
 Sofia, 1606 Bulgaria

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☐ **Allergic Reaction Associated with Intravenous Marijuana Use**

Marijuana has maintained its position as an abused drug. According to Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN) data, increases in marijuana drug mentions in Emergency Department (ED) visits increased 360% from 1991-1997 (1). Intoxication produces tachycardia, conjunctival congestion, increased appetite, and sensory intensification (2). Although usually smoked, the ingestion of marijuana in foods also results in