Management of biliary ascariasis, in the recent times, is predominantly endoscopic. Worms can be extracted using snares, dormia baskets, or biosy forceps [10]. Paradoxically, a sphincterotomy also helps in clearing the biliary tract of the parasite. Endoscopy is successful in approximately 75% cases. Open surgery remains important in the management of parasite infections complicated by biliary/pancreatic strictures and stones or worms in the gall bladder. An interesting recent report gives an effective cure rate of 96% for biliary ascariasis by the combined use of Chinese herbal medicine and acupuncture [11].

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RETURN OF FATAL CASE DOCUMENTS

Dear Editor,

It was very amusing to read the comments of Lt Col Gokhale and Lt Col Rathore on the article "Developing an operational decision rule for identifying the fatal case documents at risk of being returned through mathematical modelling" and the author's reply thereto in the Oct 98 issue of MJAFI; Vol 54:373.

One is reminded of the words of TS Eliot, "Where is the wisdom we lost in knowledge? Where is the knowledge we have lost in information?"

To this we may add, "Where is the information we have lost in data?!"

With advent of statistical software on computers it has become very easy to intimidate uninitiated readers by formidable looking statistical printouts. I request the editors to keep in mind that MJAFI is not a specialist journal but meant for the generalist. Such articles with advanced statistical concepts are more suited for specialist journals, unless the aim is to promote 'the emperor's new clothes' syndrome or confuse the reader.

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THE UNKNOWN DOCTOR ON THE INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY; COAS GOLD MEDAL FOR AMC

Dear Editor,

Recently browsing through the Journals section in the Command Library of HQ Central Command, my attention was drawn to the latest issue of USI Journal (India's oldest journal of international repute on defence affairs, established in 1870).

Among the principal contents printed on the cover is an article titled "Information Superhighways and repercussions on command style", authored by a medical officer Lt Col A Banerjee (Classified specialist in PSM and Epidemiologist at AMC C and S), who has been a regular contributor to MJAFI.

On going through the footnote [1], I was more pleasantly surprised to learn, that this article won the Chief of Army Staff Gold Medal in 1996-97, in a competition open to officers of all arms and services. This is perhaps the first time that an AMC officer has won

this medal.

I think news of such unusual achievements by AMC officers should be widely disseminated among the Corps through MJAFI.

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(A brief on the article is included in the Journal Scan in this issue)