

2. O'Grady NP, Alexander M, Dellinger EP, et al. Guidelines for the prevention of intravascular catheter-related infections. *MMWR Recomm Rep*. 2002; 51(RR-10):1-29.

3. Johnson JR. Dedicated catheter lumens for parenteral nutrition [letter]. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2003;36(12):1625-1626.

In reply: We appreciate the interest by Drs Singh and Mehta in our study and agree that many other bloodstream prevention practices warrant attention. We explicitly limited the number of practices included in the survey to avoid overburdening the respondents and to encourage a high response rate. However, we acknowledge that in doing so we excluded other important practices, such as avoiding femoral lines. We agree with Drs Singh and Mehta that the removal of unnecessary catheters is important and that greater attention should be paid to the indications for catheter placement. Indeed, strategies that encourage prompt removal or reduce the use of certain devices are important not only for preventing bloodstream infection but also for preventing other types of device-related infection, such as urinary tract infection.¹ Finally, we too would encourage further research in this area. In addition to surveys, we recommend that this work include a range of methodological approaches, both qualitative and quantitative. For example, although educational efforts can be important, the qualitative work conducted as part of our current study suggests that dedicated staff—specifically PICC (peripherally inserted central catheter) nurses or PICC teams—can play a vital role in identifying and promoting practices to decrease catheter-related bloodstream infections. The importance of issues such as

dedicated staff was not readily evident from the data we collected through the survey.

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1. Saint S, Lipsky BA, Goold SD. Indwelling urinary catheters: a one-point restraint [editorial]? *Ann Intern Med*. 2002;137(2):125-127.

CORRECTIONS

Incorrect number: In the editorial by Caplan entitled “Should Physicians Participate in Capital Punishment?” published in the September 2007 issue of *Mayo Clinic Proceedings* (*Mayo Clin Proc*. 2007;82:1047-1048), an incorrect number was published on page 1047, third paragraph, left-hand column, fourth sentence. The sentence should read as follows: Six nations (including the United States) permit the execution of children (defined as <18 years of age).⁴

Incorrect title of book: In the “Book Reviews” section in the August 2007 issue of *Mayo Clinic Proceedings* (*Mayo Clin Proc*. 2007;82:1018), an incorrect book title was published. The title should read as follows: “**Cancer** Pain Management,” edited by Michael J. Fisch and Allen W. Burton....

The Editor welcomes letters and comments, particularly pertaining to recently published articles in *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*, as well as letters reporting original observations and research. Letters pertaining to a recently published *Proceedings* article should be received no later than 1 month after the article's publication. A letter should be no longer than 500 words, contain no more than 5 references and 1 table or figure, be limited to no more than 3 authors, and not be published or submitted elsewhere. It is assumed that appropriate letters submitted to the Editor will be published, at the Editor's discretion, unless the writer indicates otherwise. Priority is given for the importance of the message, novelty of thought, and clarity of presentation. The Editor reserves the right to edit letters in accordance with *Proceedings* style and to abridge them if necessary.