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TOBIAS KRAFT / EGGZ

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

The Age Man Suit, developed by the Meyer-Hentschel Institut in Germany. Consisting of ear muffers, gloves, visor that blurs eyesight and makes it harder to distinguish colours, and boiler suit and 10 kg vest that inhibit movement, it is designed to simulate the physical effects of old age and helps medical students appreciate what life is like for the growing population of older patients.

RESPONSE OF THE WEEK

So we measured our performance against two national databases (PICANET and CCAD). We demonstrated year on year improvement so that over the last five years our outcomes have been indistinguishable from other providers. We have an ECMO service that has better outcomes than other providers. But all that means nothing in the face of a review with pre-determined outcomes and an idiosyncratic use of statistics. So in a few months our children's cardiac and ECMO services will close, and the resultant blip in mortality will go unnoticed. So collect your data, publish it, but don't expect it to make any difference.

Peter Barry, paediatrician, University of Leicester, Leicester, UK, in response to "Measure your team's performance, and publish the results" (*BMJ* 2012;344:e4590)

BMJ.COM POLL

Last week's poll asked:

"Does having a medical parent help or hinder?"

79% voted yes (total 465 votes cast)

► Personal view:

<http://www.bmj.com/content/344/bmj.e4392>

This week's poll asks:

"Should we screen for type 2 diabetes?"

► Head to Head:

Yes: (*BMJ* 2012;345:e4514)No: (*BMJ* 2012;345:e4516)

► Vote now on [bmj.com](http://www.bmj.com)

MOST READ ON BMJ.COM

Low carbohydrate-high protein diet and incidence of cardiovascular diseases in Swedish women

Effect of telehealth on use of secondary care and mortality

High reprint orders in medical journals and pharmaceutical industry funding

Perioperative management of patients taking treatment for chronic pain

