

**Harvard Medical School Department of  
Continuing Education and the Cardiovascular  
Division of the Department of Medicine,  
Brigham and Women's Hospital**



***Cardiology Rounds***  
**February 2005**

**Cardiovascular Disease in the Developing World and its Cost-Effective Management**

Thomas A. Gaziano, MD, MSc

**Objectives:**

In this issue of *Cardiology Rounds*, Dr. Gaziano reviews the epidemiological transition making cardiovascular disease (CVD) the number one cause of death worldwide. He reviews the cost-effectiveness analyses of multiple CVD interventions in developing countries. After reading the issue, readers will be able to:

- Discuss the various social and economic changes in developing countries leading to an increase in CVD
- Understand the regional differences in CVD throughout the world
- Review the mechanisms that can determine what is cost-effective in various countries
- Describe what CVD interventions are cost-effective in various regions of the world.

**Test:**

1. Rheumatic heart disease is major contributor to CVD mortality early in the epidemiological transition.  
True  False
2. The predominant cause of CVD mortality in developed countries is ischemic heart disease.  
True  False
3. CVD is the leading cause of death in all regions of the world except sub-Saharan Africa.  
True  False
4. Developing countries devote about the same proportion of their gross national income on health care as developed countries.  
True  False

5. The World Health Organization's Commission on Macroeconomics and Health recommends that a country should consider approximately 10 times its gross national income per capita as a reasonable threshold for the cost-effectiveness of an intervention.

True       False

6. Treatment of acute myocardial infarction with generic aspirin, beta-blockers, and streptokinase appears cost-effective in most regions of the world.

True       False

7. Treatment of CHF with metoprolol and enalapril is cost-effective even in settings where hospitals do not exist in developing countries.

True       False

To receive AMA category 1 credit, you must correctly answer 60% of the test questions.

Harvard Medical School is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

Harvard Medical School designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1 category 1 credit toward the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those credits that he/she actually spent in the educational activity.

This program was issued in February 2005. All tests must be returned by August 31, 2005.

Please send the completed test and a check for \$25 US. (Check made payable to: Harvard Medical School) to: Harvard Medical School/Department of Continuing Education, Box 825, Boston, MA 02117-825.

Please keep a copy of your test before submission. A certificate will be sent upon successful completion of the test, along with the answer key.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_