

would love it.² The familiar characters appear, and the inside cover art is by Roy Lichtenstein.

Thomas J. McGuire
Berkeley Fire Department
Berkeley, Calif.

References

1. Tuten F. *Tintin in the new world*. New York: William Morrow & Co.; 1993.
2. Cyr A, Cyr LO, Cyr C. Acquired growth hormone deficiency and hypogonadotropic hypogonadism in a subject with repeated head trauma, or Tintin goes to the neurologist. *CMAJ* 2004; 171(12):1433-4.

DOI:10.1503/cmaj.1050009

Congratulations to Antoine Cyr and associates¹ for their excellent article on Tintin's health disorder. This article shows kids an excellent example of what a scientific article looks like. Its potential educational value should not be underestimated.

Rémi Parmentier
Madrid, Spain

Reference

1. Cyr A, Cyr LO, Cyr C. Acquired growth hormone deficiency and hypogonadotropic hypogonadism in a subject with repeated head trauma, or Tintin goes to the neurologist. *CMAJ* 2004; 171(12):1433-4.

DOI:10.1503/cmaj.1050012

The concept of using the adventures of Tintin¹ and other cartoon or comic book characters as medical case studies is a creative way to popularize medicine.

It is amusing to see how Antoine Cyr and associates¹ have translated Tintin's adventures to the real world by collecting empiric data from the Tintin album collection. Involving children in such a scientific study is also great.

I read my Tintin albums differently since coming across this article!

David Neveu

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Reference

1. Cyr A, Cyr LO, Cyr C. Acquired growth hormone deficiency and hypogonadotropic hypogonadism in a subject with repeated head trauma,

or Tintin goes to the neurologist. *CMAJ* 2004; 171(12):1433-4.

DOI:10.1503/cmaj.1050018

[One of the authors responds:]

From these readers' comments about our Tintin article¹ I have learned that excluding fantasy from science amounts to foolish neglect of an opportunity to develop interest in science and research. The positive impact of this project on my children was equal to the article's impact on busy doctors, some of whom spoke to me for the first time after reading the study. Their smiles provided relief from the winter blues. Suddenly, stressed surgeons began sharing with me their childhood memories about Tintin and assured me that they will read Hergé's work again to confirm the findings we reported. This alone was worth jeopardizing my reputation as a "serious researcher."

As Douglas Adams wrote, "Science has achieved some wonderful things of course, but I'd far rather be happy than right any day."² Maybe we weren't right, but this publication certainly made my sons happy. As it turned out, Dec. 7, 2004, the publication date of our article, was by coincidence the 6th birthday of Antoine, first author on the article. I want to thank the journal and the lay media for making me look like the best dad in his eyes. He is convinced that I arranged coast-to-coast

media coverage as a special birthday celebration.

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References

1. Cyr A, Cyr LO, Cyr C. Acquired growth hormone deficiency and hypogonadotropic hypogonadism in a subject with repeated head trauma, or Tintin goes to the neurologist. *CMAJ* 2004; 171(12):1433-4.
2. Adams D. *The hitchhiker's guide to the galaxy*. London: Pan Macmillan; 1979. p. 143.

DOI:10.1503/cmaj.1050062

Corrections

The DOI attached to a letter to the editor¹ published last year should have read 10.1503/cmaj.1050132.

Reference

1. Brock G. Does testosterone affect effect? [letter]. *CMAJ* 2004;171(6):553.

DOI:10.1503/cmaj.050645

The DOI attached to a Query article¹ published last year should have read 10.1503/cmaj.1050133.

Reference

1. Query. *CMAJ* 2004;170(8):1360.

DOI:10.1503/cmaj.050646

Mécanisme de présentation des lettres

Le site amélioré des cyberlettres du JAMC est désormais le portail de réception de tous les textes destinés à la chronique Lettres. Pour rédiger une cyberlettre, consultez un article sur le site www.jamc.ca et cliquez ensuite sur le lien «Lettres électroniques : répondre à cet article», dans la boîte en haut à droite de l'article. Toutes les cyberlettres seront étudiées pour une éventuelle publication dans le journal imprimé.

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