

**Mission:** *The Permanente Journal* is written and published by the clinicians of the Permanente Medical Groups and KFHP to promote the delivery of superior health care through the principles and benefits of Permanente Medicine.



**On the cover:**

“Totem” by Joseph MacKenzie, PA, is a photograph recognizing the peoples of the Northwest coast who still carve great cedar logs into the figures that fill their stories about the beginnings of the world. Mr MacKenzie prints his photographs in his home studio using archival inks and watercolor paper to add depth and richness to the colors. He is a member of The Broadway Gallery in Longview, WA, and participates in other local exhibition events.

Mr MacKenzie is in the Department of Gastroenterology on the Interstate campus in Portland, OR. More of his art can be seen on page 24.

## CLINICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

### 9 Stereotactic Radiosurgery: Indications and Results — Part 2.

Joseph C T Chen, MD, PhD;  
Michael R Girvigian, MD

This second of two parts presents indications for this increasingly important option in the treatment of central nervous system disease and discusses results reported in the medical literature.

### 16 Predictive Value of the Rapid

#### **CME** Whole Blood Agglutination D-Dimer Assay (AGEN SimpliRED) in Community Outpatients with Suspected Deep Venous Thrombosis.

Julieta E Hayag, MD; Prem P Manchanda, MD

The efficacy of using d-dimer assay to diagnose suspected deep venous thrombosis is reviewed in this retrospective study that considered electronic medical record results of d-dimer assay and compression ultrasonography.

## 21 Corridor Consult

### Snoring Versus Obstructive Sleep Apnea: A Case Report.

Paul Bernstein, MD, FACS;  
JoAnne Higa Ebba, MD

This case report examines the diagnosis and treatment of obstructive sleep apnea.

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Joseph MacKenzie, PA

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Ming Jing (Mike) Wang, MD

### 80 “Zan”

Sevada Younesian, RN

## CCC UPDATE

### 51 Institute for Culturally Competent Care: Clinicians’ Needs Assessment

2005. Gayle Hunt; Saleena Gupte, DrPH, MPH

This article describes the 2005 survey and the learnings gleaned from it.

### 53 A Successful Partnership to Help Reduce Health Disparities at Kaiser Permanente: The Institute for Culturally Competent Care and the Kaiser Permanente School of Anesthesia.

Nilda Chong, MD, MPH, DrPH; Sassoon M Elisha, CRNA, MS, EdD; Maria Maglalang, RN, MN, NP; Karen Koh, MPH, DrPHi

This article describes the genesis evolution, and potential impact of an ongoing partnership between the KP school of Anesthesia and the California State University system in incorporating a formal cultural competence program.

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## SPECIAL FEATURE

A Focus on New Technology

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#### CME At Last or Alas?

Michael J Pentecost, MD

This first in a series on health policy describes the pay-for-performance movement, its successes and downfalls.

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Barbara Caruso

A compilation of news, significant awards, and accomplishments about Permanente physicians and the Permanente Medical Groups.



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**Submitting Artwork:** Send us a high-quality color photograph of your art no smaller than 4"x5" and no larger than 8"x10". Please include a cover letter explaining Kaiser Permanente association, art background, medium, size, and a brief statement about the artwork (description, inspiration, etc). Electronic and e-mail submissions are accepted; 600 dpi resolution is required.

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