

Medical Extremes (A Compendium of Medical Records) Is Now Online



To the Editor:

Several years ago, my co-editors and I asked the medical community¹ to submit entries for inclusion in a small book of “medical records” (eg, lowest recorded arterial partial pressure of oxygen concentration, highest serum calcium, largest gallstone). We received hundreds of possible items and carefully authenticated and reviewed each before publishing them in an 81-page pocket-sized book titled *Medical Extremes: A Book of Records*.² Since then, we have received many additional items for consideration and decided to update the book and publish it in an up-to-the-minute format online.

The online version can be accessed at <http://medextremes.wix.com/medicalextremes>. The website is available to anyone free of charge and without registration. No informa-

tion (personal or otherwise) is gathered by the editors of the website. Users of the website are encouraged to provide their own possible items for inclusion; the site can be continually and instantly updated.

The intent of the website is to provide information—not available elsewhere—that appeals to students, residents, and practicing physicians and other healthcare workers. Who among us is not curious? Who is not interested in knowing the trivia as well as the essential?

Readers of *The American Journal of Medicine* are encouraged to explore *Medical Extremes* online as often as they want and provide feedback for update and improvement of the site.

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References

1. Smilack JD, Weiland LH, Williams JW. Wanted: submissions for the definitive book of medical records. *Am J Med.* 1993;95:118.
2. Smilack JD, Weiland LH, Williams JW, editors. *Medical Extremes: A Book of Records*. Scottsdale, AZ: Self-published; 1997.