



The nurses[HUB]news keeps you in touch with what's happening at Christmas. We wish all of our readers a safe and happy festive season, and all good wishes for 2014.

In this edition:

- [Case Study: Ornithophobia and the 12 days of Christmas](#)
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What's New!

Involved in Clinical Trials?

The following video, [Biostats vs Lab Research](#), can help in understanding the statistical issues around sample size for grant applications.

Something to read: Evidence examples

Smith GC, Pell JP. [Parachute use to prevent death and major trauma related to gravitational challenge: systematic review of randomised controlled trials](#). BMJ. 2003 Dec 20;327(7429):1459-61.

This systematic review reports that as with interventions intended to prevent ill health, the effectiveness of parachutes has not been subjected to rigorous evaluation by using randomised controlled trials.



Wheatley-Price P, Hutton B, Clemons M. [The Mayan Doomsday's effect on survival outcomes in clinical trials](#). CMAJ. 2012 Dec 11;184(18):2012-2.

This paper outlines mechanisms for dealing with anticipated effect of an apocalypse, hence known as Mayan Doomsday (MaD), on survival outcome measures. The authors indicate that research methods must be adjusted for the expedited analysis of all clinical research currently in progress.



Ince C, van Kuijen AM, Milstein DM, Yürük K, Folkow LP, Fokkens WJ, et al. [Why Rudolph's nose is red: observational study](#). BMJ. 2012 Dec 14;345:e8311.

This observational study looked at functional morphology of the nasal microcirculation in humans compared to reindeers as a means of testing the hypothesis that the red nose of Rudolph is due to the presence of a highly dense and rich nasal microcirculation. The authors concluded that the while nasal microcirculation in humans consists of hairpin-like vessels, microcirculatory networks, and crypt-like structures surrounded by capillaries, reindeer have a more richly vascularised nasal microcirculation, with a vascular density 25% higher than that in humans.

Somewhere to visit

The city of Kingston (Vic) website provides [seasonal information](#), with something for everyone.

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