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Let's Go Down the Correct Path(way)

To the Editor:

“Acquired Liver Injury in the Intensive Care Unit” by Lescot *et al.*¹ is an excellent discussion of the multifaceted causes of liver injury. One correction is in order, however. The review incorrectly states that the international normalized ratio reflects intrinsic pathway activity. It is the activity of the *extrinsic* coagulation pathway, often now referred to as the tissue factor pathway, that is measured by the international normalized ratio and initiates the coagulation cascade.² An understanding of the specific pathway measured by a coagulation test is paramount to the treatment of defects secondary to liver disease. It should also be pointed out that the international normalized ratio, one component of the model for end-stage liver disease scoring used to prioritize liver transplantation waiting lists, can be highly variable depending on the laboratory analyzing the sample.³

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In Reply:

We thank Drs. Johnson and Rice for correcting our inadvertent error from our article¹ and agree with their comments.

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Intralipid: The New Magic Bullet in Cardioprotection?

To the Editor:

In two recent publications in *ANESTHESIOLOGY*, Dr. Eghbali's group reports the attenuation of myocardial reperfusion injury in rodents by intralipid administered on reperfusion.^{1,2} Taken together with another study by the same group in which intralipid prevents and even rescues pulmonary hypertension,³ and the serendipitous landmark discoveries of lipid rescue therapy against bupivacaine-induced cardiotoxicity first in dogs⁴ and then humans,⁵ intralipid appears to have become a new magic bullet for cardioprotection. Nevertheless, many questions remain. Li *et al.*² state that intralipid acts through the phosphorylation of Akt/extracellular signal-regulated kinase-1/glycogen

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