CORRESPONDENCE

Tongue as the Window to the Heart

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To the Editor:

I read with great interest your masterful article on study of the tongue in patients with coronary heart disease.⁽¹⁾ Tongue is, indeed, the window to the heart.⁽²⁾ Many cardiovascular diseases including coronary heart disease can be accurately diagnosed by the Chinese traditional physicians by careful inspection of the tongue (Figure 1).

REFERENCES

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Figure 1. Tongue Appearances in Various Cardiovascular Diseases

Notes: A: normal coated tongue of a cigarette smoker with nicotine staining; B: normal fissured tongue ("scrotal tongue"); C: transverse fissuring of tongue in Down syndrome; D: combined horizontal, vertical, and diagonal fissuring of the tongue in a patient with cardiac arrhythmias; E: geographical tongue in a patient with coronary artery disease and cerebral artery spasm; F: chicken heart tongue in a patient with coronary artery disease

(Received June 2, 2011)

Edited by YUAN Lin