

that these disorders may contribute to systemic illnesses such as hypertension and cardiovascular disorders, interest in the early diagnosis and treatment of disorders of respiratory control is growing. In view of the high incidence and potential health consequences of sleep-disordered breathing, physicians must be on the lookout for this condition. The increased incidence of OSA parallels that of obesity in the United States, a public health problem that has been associated with asthma and increased risk of death. It is highly likely that genetic predisposition to OSA accounts for increased incidence in some families.

#### SUGGESTED READINGS

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