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ISSN 0256-9574

Publisher Website: www.hmpg.co.za Journal Website: www.samj.org.za



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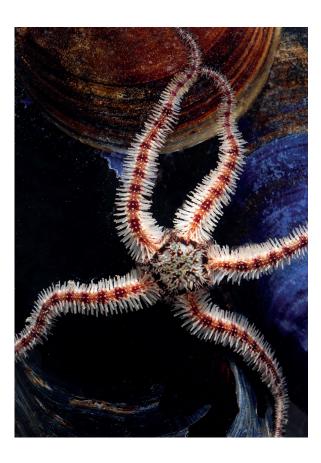
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# **CPD QUESTIONS**



The Phylum Echinodermata comprises the starfish, sea urchins, sea cucumbers, brittlestars and feather-stars, all of which have a radial symmetry, most often with a five-armed arrangement. They also share spiny skins, hence their name (ekhinos = hedgehog, and derma = skin). All brittlestars, such as the hairy brittlestar (Ophiothrix fragilis) shown here, have five thin, flexible arms that they undulate in snake-like motion to shift around. Because their arms are fragile, brittlestars are seldom seen roaming in the open, but are abundant under the shelter of boulders, extending their arms to capture small detrital particles.

Photo and text: George Branch Email: mbranch@mweb.co.za

### Contents listed in

Index Medicus (Medline). Excerpta Medica (EMBASE). Biological Abstracts (BIOSIS). Science Citation Index (SciSearch).

Current Contents/Clinical Medicine

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Subscription rates Local subscriptions R1 044.00 p.a. Foreign subscriptions R2 352.00 p.a. Single copies R95.00

Members of the Association receive the SAMJ only on request, as part of their membership benefit.

Subscriptions: Tel. (012) 481-2071 E-mail: members@samedical.org

The SAMJ is published monthly by the Health and Medical Publishing Group (Pty) Ltd, Co. registration 2004/0220 32/07, a subsidiary of SAMA.

28 Main Road (Cnr Devonshire Hill Road), Rondebosch, 7700

Tel. (021) 681-7200. Fax (021) 681-7099. E-mail: publishing@hmpg.co.za Website: www.samedical.org

Please submit all letters and articles for publication online at www.samj.org.za

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