In Focus

Spotlight on the November 29 Issue

Robert A. Gross, MD, PhD, FAAN
Editor-in-Chief, *Neurology*®

Neuropathy in Parkinson disease: Prevalence and determinants

This study used a cross-sectional analysis of 37 patients with Parkinson disease (PD) and 37 controls to determine prevalence and etiology. Neuropathy was more prevalent in patients with PD, which may be due to vitamin B₁₂ deficiency, related to cumulative levodopa exposure in susceptible individuals.

See p. 1947

From editorialists Tison & Le Masson: "Decreased or low-normal B₁₂ levels have been described in IPD with neuropathy and patients may be stabilized by supplementation by IM cobalamin in some cases."

See p. 1938

Reducing bodies and myofibrillar myopathy features in FHL1 muscular dystrophy

This study extends the pathologic and clinical phenotypes of the FHL1 muscular dystrophies in 200 subjects. FHL1 muscular

dystrophy can result in myofibrillar myopathy morphology. Nuclear injury contributes to the pathogenesis and demonstrates that reducing bodies are composed of tubulofilaments.

See p. 1951

Acetazolamide efficacy in hypokalemic periodic paralysis and the predictive role of genotype

The authors identified 74 genotyped patients who underwent extensive clinical evaluation where response to acetazolamide therapy was documented. Direct DNA sequencing of *CACNA1S* and *SCN4A* was performed. Approximately 50% of patients with hypokalemic periodic paralysis respond to acetazolamide, with evidence supporting a relationship between genotype and treatment response.

See p. 1960

Natural history of MELAS associated with mitochondrial DNA m.3243A>G genotype

This study included 85 matrilineal relatives from 35 families; 31 were fully symptomatic with MELAS and 54 were carrier relatives. Temporal changes in clinical and laboratory features and survival were evaluated. Patients with MELAS carrying the m.3243A>G mutation showed a measurable decline in clinical and imaging outcomes.

See p. 1965

Long-term association between seizure outcome and depression after resective epilepsy surgery

The authors explored the association between long-term epilepsy surgery outcome and changes in depressive symptoms in 373 subjects, 256 evaluated at baseline and 5 years after surgery. While participants had, on average, initial improvement in depressive symptoms after resective surgery, only patients with good or excellent seizure control sustained long-term improvement in mood.

See p. 1972

Voxel-level comparison of arterial spin-labeled perfusion MRI and FDG-PET in Alzheimer disease

The authors compared the ability of arterial spin labeling (ASL) to that of FDG-PET in distinguishing 15 patients with Alzheimer disease (AD) from 19 controls. The voxel-wise results provided overlapping information with FDG-PET. Given its ease of acquisition and noninvasiveness, ASL-MRI may be an appealing alternative for AD studies.

See p. 1977

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN NEUROLOGIC PRACTICE

Neurology and neurologic practice in China

The major causes of death in China are vascular disease, cancer, and chronic respiratory disease with cerebrovascular disease most prominent. Mental illness is now firmly one of the major national health concerns in China, prompting development of new initiatives to tackle this issue.

See p. 1986

NB: Patient Page: "Parkinson disease and polyneuropathy," see p. e132. To check out other Patient Pages, point your browser to www.neurology.org.

Podcasts can be accessed at www.neurology.org

Neurology[®]

Spotlight on the November 29 Issue

Robert A. Gross

Neurology 2011;77;1935

DOI 10.1212/WNL.0b013e31823de11a

This information is current as of November 28, 2011

Updated Information & Services

including high resolution figures, can be found at:
<http://n.neurology.org/content/77/22/1935.full>

Permissions & Licensing

Information about reproducing this article in parts (figures, tables) or in its entirety can be found online at:
http://www.neurology.org/about/about_the_journal#permissions

Reprints

Information about ordering reprints can be found online:
<http://n.neurology.org/subscribers/advertise>

Neurology® is the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology. Published continuously since 1951, it is now a weekly with 48 issues per year. Copyright Copyright © 2011 by AAN Enterprises, Inc.. All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.