In Focus

Spotlight on the October 2 Issue

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Poststroke fatigue following minor infarcts: A prospective study

This study assessed 99 patients under 70 years old who had a first, nondisabling stroke during the acute phase and then at 6 and 12 months. Attentional and executive impairment, as well as depression and anxiety, may play a critical role in the development of poststroke fatigue.

See p. 1422; Editorial, p. 1414

Deconditioning in patients with orthostatic intolerance

The authors examined 184 patients (84 with postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome and 100 without orthostatic tachycardia) who underwent standardized autonomic and exercise testing. Patients with orthostatic intolerance should undertake an exercise program sufficient to reverse deconditioning.

See p. 1435

Large-scale neuronal network dysfunction in relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis

Visual resting-state network in relapsing-remitting MS with and without previous optic neuritis

These 2 papers investigated the changes in network activity that occur in relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis (RRMS). In one paper visual networks were the focus, with patients with RRMS showing a significant functional disconnection in the

visual resting-state network; in the other paper, the study focused on larger-scale networks with functional abnormalities occurring in patients with RRMS.

See p. 1449, p. 1458; Editorials, p. 1416, p. 1418

Neurologic complications of influenza A(H1N1)pdm09: Surveillance in 6 pediatric hospitals

Five hundred six children with pH1N1'09 were hospitalized, and 49 had neurologic complications; the median age was 4.8 years compared with 3.7 years in those without complications. The lack of specific treatment for influenza-related neurologic complications underlines the importance of early diagnosis, use of antivirals, and universal influenza vaccination in children.

See p. 1474; Comment, p. 1479

Efficacy of antiepileptic drugs in adults predicts efficacy in children: A systematic review

This systematic literature review of 30 peer-reviewed studies revealed that adult antiepileptic drug (AED) trials predict efficacy in children 2–18 years of age with partial-onset seizures. Extrapolation of such data provides an alternative approach to current pediatric AED development, accelerating much-needed approval for this population.

See p. 1482

From editorialists Bourgeois & Goodkin: "The evidence presented indicates that this extrapolation is possible in the case of several antiepileptic drugs effective as adjunctive therapy for partial-onset seizures. However . . . the answer to the question of whether one size fits all remains incomplete."

See p. 1420

Blink reflex recovery cycle in patients with essential tremor associated with resting tremor

This study investigated the R2 recovery component of the blink reflex (R2-BRrc) in 14 patients with essential tremor associated with resting tremor (rET), 14 patients with essential tremor (ET), and 16 controls. Patients with rET showed increased R2-BRrc, suggesting that this form of tremor may be a dystonic tremor rather than a subtype of ET.

See p. 1490

SPECIAL ARTICLE

Evidence-based guideline: Diagnostic accuracy of CSF 14-3-3 protein in sporadic Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease: Report of the Guideline Development Subcommittee of the AAN

Available literature was reviewed to assess the diagnostic accuracy of CSF testing for protein 14-3-3 in patients with suspected sporadic Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (sCJD). For patients with rapidly progressive dementia and suspected of having sCJD, CSF 14-3-3 assays should be ordered to reduce the uncertainty of the diagnosis.

See p. 1499

NB: "Resident & Fellow Opinion & Special Article: A guide from fellowship to faculty: Nietzsche and the academic neurologist," see p. e116. To check out other Resident & Fellow submissions, point your browser to www.neurology.org and click on the link to the Resident & Fellow Section.

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