In Focus

Spotlight on the April 12 Issue

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

Notable in *Neurology*

This issue features an article examining amyloid negativity in patients with clinically diagnosed Alzheimer disease and mild cognitive impairment and another examining whether occupational cognitive requirements were associated with late-life cognition and cognitive decline. A featured article determined whether behavioral symptoms in patients with primary progressive aphasia were associated with degeneration of a ventral frontotemporal network.

ARTICLES

Better verbal memory in women than men in MCI despite similar levels of hippocampal atrophy

advantage in verbal memory despite evidence of moderate hippocampal atrophy.

See p. 1368

From editorialists Sano & Gandy: "At a policy level, the potential health care cost that will be encumbered by underdetection or delayed diagnosis of women with prodromal or overt dementia (including AD) is staggering and should motivate increased research attention and funding in this focused area."

See p. 1364

Age at onset and Parkinson disease phenotype

The authors analyzed baseline data in 422 patients with a diagnosis of Parkinson disease confirmed by DaTSCAN imaging. Although the presentation of Parkinson disease symptoms was similar across all age subgroups, older age at onset was associated with more severe motor and nonmotor features, greater dopamine dysfunction on imaging, and increasing levels of CSF biomarkers. The variability of imaging and nonimaging biomarkers has implications for future clinical trials.

See p. 1400; Comment p. 1406

Randomized, placebo-controlled trials of dichlorphenamide in periodic paralysis

Two trials were conducted in patients with hypokalemic and hyperkalemic periodic paralysis, with each divided into 2 phases: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled 9-week phase followed by a 1-year uncontrolled extension phase during which all participants received treatment with dichlorphenamide. Dichlorphenamide was effective in reducing attack frequency, was safe, and improved quality of life in hypokalemic periodic paralysis.

See p. 1408

From editorialists Fontaine & Phillips: "It shows that academic research can have an important role in identifying the molecular causes for rare diseases, which facilitates development of new therapies to meet patient needs. It also shows that excellent patient-oriented clinical research can lead to rapid drug approval by the Food and Drug Administration."

See p. 1366

Health-related quality of life in multiple sclerosis: Direct and indirect effects of comorbidity

Using path analysis with 949 adults with multiple sclerosis, the authors examined whether known predictors and comorbidity affected health-related quality of life (HRQoL) directly or indirectly. Disability reduced HRQoL primarily directly, whereas depression, anxiety, and physical comorbidity reduced HRQoL partly with effects on other variables. Treating depression, anxiety, fatigue, and comorbidities may improve HRQoL.

See p. 1417

NB: "Dark Victory" (prognosis negative): The beginnings of neurology on screen," p. 1433. To check out other Historical Neurology submissions, point your browser to Neurology.org. At the end of the issue, check out the Clinical/Scientific Notes discussing bilateral sequential peripheral vestibulopathy and monozygotic twins with de novo ZIC2 gene mutations. This week also includes a Humanities story titled "No man's land."

Podcasts can be accessed at Neurology.org

Neurology®

Spotlight on the April 12 Issue

Robert A. Gross

Neurology 2016;86:1363

DOI 10.1212/WNL.0000000000002577

This information is current as of April 11, 2016

Updated Information & Services

including high resolution figures, can be found at:
<http://n.neurology.org/content/86/15/1363.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 © 2016 American Academy of Neurology. All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.