In Focus

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Notable in *Neurology* this week

This issue features an article that assesses new remote cerebral microbleeds after IV thrombolysis in patients with acute stroke; another investigates the prognostic value of serum neurofilament light chains for clinically defined multiple sclerosis and McDonald 2017 multiple sclerosis in patients with clinically isolated syndromes. A featured Medical Hypothesis reexamines the pathogenic role of protein aggregation in sporadic Parkinson and Alzheimer diseases.

Articles

$RCVS_2$ score and diagnostic approach for reversible cerebral vasoconstriction syndrome

Using clinical imaging variables readily available on admission, the authors developed a score and clinical algorithm that reliably distinguishes reversible cerebral vasoconstriction syndrome (RCVS) from other intracranial arteriopathies. Enabling prompt and accurate diagnosis of RCVS at the bedside should reduce the need for unnecessary diagnostic tests and potentially risky treatments.
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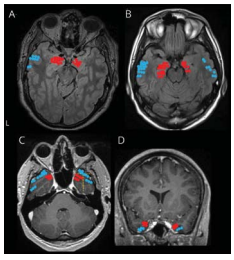
From editorialists Arrigan & Biller: "The $RCVS_2$ score is easy to use and should reduce clinical equivocation and guide appropriate management. Its simplicity may prove particularly helpful to physicians without specific expertise in intracranial vasculopathies."
Page 309

Limbic and paralimbic structures driving ictal central apnea



Ictal central apnea (ICA) is a seizure-related phenomenon, generated by brain structures involved in seizure discharges. Apnea-generating human brain structures were identified using electrical stimulation; amygdala, hippocampus, anterior parahippocampal, and antero-mesial fusiform gyri were associated with apnea. ICA likely represents seizure discharges in these limbic and paralimbic structures.
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Adherence with psychotherapy and treatment outcomes for psychogenic nonepileptic seizures

This prospective cohort study underscores the importance of patient adherence with psychotherapy in treating psychogenic nonepileptic seizures. It shows that nonadherence with psychotherapy is associated with worse outcomes. Neurologists and behavioral health care providers should collaborate in transitioning patients with psychogenic nonepileptic seizures into psychotherapy and supporting their adherence and engagement with treatment.
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From editorialist Benbadis: "The efficacy of any treatment for (psychogenic nonepileptic seizures) can likely be extrapolated to other psychogenic symptoms, and should be of interest to all clinicians. It is also a strong motivation to improve mental health education and delivery."
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Continued

MORE ONLINE

Editor's Summary
Audio summary of highlighted articles.
NPub.org/edsum

Cognitive decline after elective and nonelective hospitalizations in older adults

Clinicians require information about which hospitalizations increase risk of cognitive decline in older patients. Using annual cognitive assessments linked to Medicare records, the authors found that emergency and urgent hospitalizations were related to accelerated cognitive decline; elective hospitalizations were not. Unplanned hospitalizations may increase risk of cognitive decline more than elective procedures.

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NB: "Hypertrophic olivary degeneration mimics relapse in neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorder," p. 343. To check out other NeuroImages, point your browser to Neurology.org/N. At the end of the issue, check out the Resident & Fellow Pearls & Oy-sters discussing the critical role of genetic testing to diagnose Pompe disease. This week also includes a Reflections: Neurology and the Humanities prose piece titled "Lucky and the root doctor."

NEW EPISODE

Neurology®
PODCAST

February 12, 2019

Quality of life outcomes in patients presenting for evaluation of central nervous system tumors (see the February 2019 issue of *Neurology® Clinical Practice*)

1. Quality of life outcomes in patients presenting for evaluation of central nervous system tumors
2. What's Trending: 'Landmark study' shows brain cells revamp their DNA, perhaps sparking Alzheimer disease

In the first segment, Dr. Ted Burns talks with Dr. Irene Katzan about her paper on quality of life outcomes in patients presenting for evaluation of central nervous system tumors. In the second part of the podcast, Dr. Jeff Burns focuses his interview with Dr. Jerold Chun on a 'landmark study' showing brain cells revamp their DNA, perhaps sparking Alzheimer disease.

Disclosures can be found at Neurology.org.

No CME this week: Interviews based on articles from *Neurology: Clinical Practice*, *Neurology® Genetics*, and *Neurology® Neuroimmunology & Neuroinflammation* are excluded from the CME program.

Spotlight on the February 12 issue

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