



In Focus

Spotlight on the October 12 Issue

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Associations between retinal nerve fiber layer abnormalities and optic nerve examination



Clinical and optical coherence tomography examinations were performed on 240 patients drawn from an outpatient clinic; the results were compared with regard to retinal nerve fiber layer thickness. Optical coherence tomography revealed retinal nerve fiber layer abnormalities in many patients who were not classified as having optic atrophy.

See p. 1318; Editorial, p. 1312

Prior antiplatelet therapy and outcome following intracerebral hemorrhage: A systematic review



There is considerable uncertainty whether prior antiplatelet therapy, such as aspirin, worsens outcome when intracerebral hemorrhage occurs. This systematic review of published and unpublished studies suggests that the true effect of prior antiplatelet therapy on increased mortality may actually be quite small.

See p. 1333; Editorial, p. 1314

Albuminuria and the risk of incident stroke and stroke types in older adults



The authors evaluated the association of stroke with 3 kidney biomarkers—albuminuria, cystatin C, and glomerular filtration rate—in 390 participants who had an incident stroke. Urinary albumin-to-creatinine ratio was the kidney biomarker most strongly associated with risk of incident stroke in the elderly but may not apply to younger adults.

See p. 1343

Polytherapy increases the risk of infertility in women with epilepsy



This study followed 375 women with epilepsy from 1 to 10 years, the endpoint being pregnancy; 231 became pregnant and 144 did not. Infertility was high in more than a third (38%) of women, who were exposed to multiple antiepileptic drugs, were older, and had lower education.

See p. 1351

From editorialist Alison M. Pack: "The findings of this well-designed prospective study of women with epilepsy identified in the preconception stage support that women with epilepsy are more likely to be infertile when compared to the general population."

See p. 1316

Phenotypic spectrum of patients with *PLA2G6* mutations and *PARK14*-linked parkinsonism

The authors conducted mutation analysis in 29 selected patients with early-onset parkinsonism to clarify the role of *PLA2G6* mutation. Based on the clinical heterogeneity, the functional roles of *PLA2G6* and *PLA2G6* variants including single heterozygous mutations should be further elucidated in patients with atypical parkinsonism, dementia, or Parkinson disease.

See p. 1356

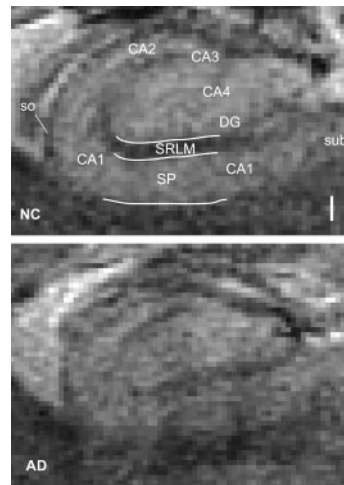
Long-term therapy with high doses of subcutaneous immunoglobulin in multifocal motor neuropathy



Six IVIg-responsive multifocal motor neuropathy patients were given a dose-equivalent course of subcutaneous self-infusion IG (SCIG) for 2 years. This study provides evidence that long-term SCIG therapy is an alternative approach to IVIg for some patients.

See p. 1377

Hippocampal CA1 apical neuropil atrophy in mild Alzheimer disease visualized with 7-T MRI



Early diagnosis of Alzheimer disease requires the development of objective biomarkers. The authors used 7-T MRI to study the CA1 subregion of the hippocampus and found that atrophy of this structure may be more sensitive than other neuroimaging metrics at identifying patients with mild Alzheimer disease.

See p. 1381

NB: "Child Neurology: Past, Present, and Future, Part 3: The Future" see p. e62. To check out Part 1: History (published August 18, 2009) and Part 2: Present Training Structure (published February 9, 2010), visit www.neurology.org and click on the link to the Resident & Fellow Pages. Go to www.aan.com/go/education/residents/eppearl to visit the E-Pearl of the Week Archive.

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