In Focus

Spotlight on the January 4 Issue

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

60th anniversary of the journal

The first issue of 2011 marks an important anniversary for the Green Journal: it is 60 years old. To celebrate, we are reprinting the initial article of that first issue, by Pearce Bailey, titled "The Past, Present and Future of Neurology in the United States" (see p. 18). The founding editor was Russell DeJong, who served from 1951 to 1977. There have been five editors-in-chief since his tenure; I have the honor of being the sixth, just in time to celebrate the journal's entering its seventh decade as the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology.

Focal structural changes and cognitive dysfunction in juvenile myoclonic epilepsy

The authors assessed 28 patients with juvenile myoclonic epilepsy (JME) and a large sample of healthy controls using a series of neuropsychological tests as well as structural and diffusion tensor MRI.

The neuropsychological, structural, and tractography results implicated mesial frontal cortex, especially the SMA, and posterior cingulate cortex in JME.

See p. 34

Novel genetic findings in an extended family pedigree with sleepwalking

The authors interviewed 9 affected and 13 unaffected family members who had inherited sleepwalking. Parametric linkage analysis of this family revealed a maximum logarithm of the odds score of 3.44 at chromosome 20q12-q13.12. Additional studies are needed to determine whether sleepwalking that persists into adulthood has different epidemiologic or genetic features.

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From editorialists Okan Dogu and Mark R. Pressman: "With the publication of the study by Licis et al. in this issue of *Neurology*,® an additional piece of the genetic puzzle for understanding the etiopathogenesis of sleepwalking is presented."

See p. 12

NB: Take the time to check out the message from the Editors to our US and International Reviewers (p. 2) and our reprint of the first article ever published in the journal (p. 18).

Racial/ethnic disparities in access to physician care and medications among US stroke survivors

The authors compared access to care within the last 12 months by race/ethnicity before and after stratification by age (45–64 years vs ≥ 65 years) among 4,864 stroke survivors. Mexican Americans and African Americans had reduced access to physician care and medications, which could result in inadequate risk factor modification and recurrent stroke.

See p. 53

Effects of subthalamic stimulation on speech of consecutive patients with Parkinson disease

Speech deterioration was the main side effect of bilateral subthalamic nucleus stimulation (STN-DBS) in 32 patients with Parkinson disease. In this consecutive series, speech intelligibility deteriorated in two-thirds of the patients 1 year after STN-DBS. Risk factors were medially placed electrodes and higher voltage for the left subthalamic nucleus.

See p. 80

VIEWS & REVIEWS

The paradoxical effect of bevacizumab in the therapy of malignant gliomas

This review examined how antiangiogenic agents may mask pseudoprogression and diminish the beneficial effects of radiochemotherapy in newly diagnosed malignant glioma. The important questions raised here regarding antitumor vs radiographic efficacy need to be addressed.

See p. 87

SPECIAL ARTICLE

Quality improvement in neurology: AAN epilepsy quality measures

There is a reasonable evidence base for deriving performance measures for epilepsy care, which resulted in 8 simple and practical activities that physicians may do during patient encounters. If implemented, these performance measures should improve care for patients with epilepsy.

See p. 94; Editorial, p. 16

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