In Focus

Spotlight on the October 29 Issue

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

Pretreatment cognitive deficits and treatment effects on attention in childhood absence epilepsy

Patients with newly diagnosed childhood absence epilepsy had neuropsychological testing, including assessments of general intellectual functioning, attention, memory, executive function, and achievement. These children had a higher rate of pretreatment attentional deficits that persisted despite seizure freedom. Vigilant cognitive and behavioral assessment of children with absence epilepsy is warranted.

See p. 1572; Editorial, p. 1564

Fatigue in the acute phase after first stroke predicts poorer physical health 18 months later

Fatigue is common following stroke and may hinder rehabilitation. This longitudinal study found that fatigue during the acute phase after stroke predicted self-reported physical health 18 months later, adjusting for relevant confounders including age and acute phase health. Treatment of acute phase fatigue may improve physical health among stroke survivors.

See p. 1581

From editorialists Brodtmann & van de Port: "There is considerable interest in both pharmacologic (antidepressants, stimulants) and physical (graded exercise programs, cognitive therapy) interventions to reduce and treat PSF."

See p. 1566

A β -related angiitis: Comparison with CAA without inflammation and primary CNS vasculitis

The authors compared 40 patients with sporadic cerebral amyloid angiopathy without inflammation, 28 patients with A β -related angiitis (ABRA), and 118 patients with primary CNS vasculitis (PCNSV) without β -amyloid. ABRA may represent a distinct subset of PCNSV and, with an immune response directed against β -amyloid, may share a mechanism with complications of immunotherapy for Alzheimer disease.

See p. 1596

α -Synuclein in cutaneous autonomic nerves

Twenty patients with Parkinson disease and 14 controls had examinations, autonomic testing, and skin biopsies. α -Synuclein deposition was increased in cutaneous sympathetic adrenergic and sympathetic cholinergic fibers but not sensory fibers, suggesting that the

α -synuclein deposition in cutaneous autonomic structures may be a useful biomarker in patients with Parkinson disease.

See p. 1604; Editorial, p. 1568

Gait speed in Parkinson disease correlates with cholinergic degeneration

Subjects with Parkinson disease (PD) but without dementia and elderly participants without PD had [11 C]dihydrotetrabenazine dopaminergic and [11 C]methyl-4-piperidiny propionate acetylcholinesterase PET imaging and cognitive and clinical testing, including an 8.5-meter walk in the dopaminergic "off" state. Comorbid cortical cholinergic denervation was a more robust marker of slowing of gait in PD than nigrostriatal denervation alone.

See p. 1611

VIEWS & REVIEWS

NINDS epilepsy and autism spectrum disorders workshop report

This was a unique workshop on autism spectrum disorders, epilepsy, and intellectual disability sponsored by NINDS, with support from NICHD, Autism Speaks, and CURE, that brought together experts from the autism and epilepsy community. The consensus of the workshop was shared pathophysiology connecting all 3 disorders.

See p. 1630

NB: "Harmonization of European neurology education: The junior doctor's perspective," see p. 1626. To check out other Global Perspectives articles, point your browser to www.neurology.org.

Podcasts can be accessed at www.neurology.org

Neurology®

Spotlight on the October 29 Issue

Robert A. Gross

Neurology 2013;81;1561

DOI 10.1212/01.wnl.0000435310.18142.3e

This information is current as of October 28, 2013

Updated Information & Services

including high resolution figures, can be found at:
<http://n.neurology.org/content/81/18/1561.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 © 2013 American Academy of Neurology. All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.