In Focus

Spotlight on the January 6 Issue

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Notable in *Neurology*

This issue features 2 pediatric papers discussing the rotavirus infection and congenital myopathies. There are several articles on the topic of cerebrovascular stroke, detailing recurrence of stroke after TIA and optimal combination secondary drug treatment.

From editorialists Jickling & Montaner: "Stroke risk following TIA is commonly estimated using the ABCD2 score in combination with DWI and LAA. Improved understanding of this risk will help to gain insight into the mechanisms behind this risk and allow better clinical risk stratification in TIA."

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ARTICLES

Distinctive pattern of white matter injury in neonates with rotavirus infection

The authors found a distinctive pattern of white matter injury in 18 neonates with seizures or apnea. Neonates with these characteristic diffusion-weighted images had a high positive rate of rotavirus infection without evidence of other

pathogens, with neurologic symptoms appearing on the fifth day after birth.

See p. 21

From editorialists de Vries & Bearden: "Because rotavirus can spread quickly in neonatal intensive care units, this article suggests that we should be looking for rotavirus in neonates with seizures and white matter injury on MRI so that appropriate infection control measures can be taken."

See p. 13

Metabolomics predicts stroke recurrence after transient ischemic attack

Metabolomics analyses performed in 2 independent cohorts of 131 and 162 patients with TIA revealed that 2 biomarkers belonging to the lysophosphatidylcholine family were associated with stroke recurrence. Metabolomics provides the opportunity to identify potential biomarkers for determination of etiology and for prognosis in patients with TIA.

See p. 36

Factors associated with cognitive evaluations in the United States

This study provided a detailed in-person examination of 297 patients meeting the criteria for dementia, with 55.2% reporting no prior history of a clinical cognitive evaluation. The likelihood of receiving a clinical cognitive evaluation in elderly individuals with dementia is associated with patient-specific factors, in particular severity of cognitive impairment and current marital status.

See p. 64

Relapses and disability accumulation in progressive multiple sclerosis

The authors examined the effect of relapses on the rate of postprogression disability in patients with progressive multiple sclerosis. Pre- and postprogression relapses accelerated time to severe disability. Continuing immunomodulation for 5 years after the onset of progressive disease may be reasonable to consider in patients with bout-onset progressive multiple sclerosis.

See p. 81

NB: "Drawing perseveration in the behavioral variant of frontotemporal dementia," see p. 101. To check out other *NeuroImages*, point your browser to Neurology.org. At the end of the issue, also check out the Views & Reviews article about complex regional pain syndrome along with the 2 Clinical/Scientific Notes discussing delayed cerebral hypersensitivity and VZV encephalitis. As we start 2015, we thank our reviewers in our Acknowledgement to Reviewers published this week.

Podcasts can be accessed at Neurology.org

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