



In Focus

Spotlight on the October 27 Issue

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Notable in Neurology

This issue features an article investigating systemic thrombolysis in acute ischemic stroke patients with unruptured intracranial aneurysms and another on predicting an underrecognized etiology of temporal lobe epilepsy: temporal anteroinferior encephalocele. A review article focuses on chronic traumatic encephalopathy in athletes.

ARTICLES

Age-specific association of migraine with cryptogenic TIA and stroke: Population-based study

In patients with TIA and ischemic stroke, migraine was more commonly associated with cryptogenic events than with events of known etiology, particularly at older ages. Migraine is accepted as a risk factor for “young” stroke, but these findings suggest a causal relationship between migraine and cryptogenic TIA or ischemic stroke at older ages.

See p. 1444

From editorialists Tietjen & Rundek: “The role of assessment for hypercoagulable factors is usually determined on a case-by-case basis. The findings from this study suggest that in stroke patients with a history of migraine, regardless of age, a wider net should be cast to uncover nonvascular causes.”

See p. 1436

Infection, vaccination, and childhood arterial ischemic stroke: Results of the VIPS study

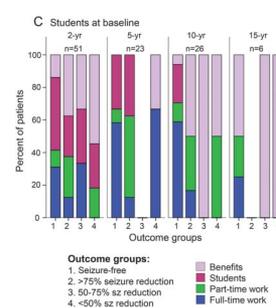
The authors enrolled more than 700 children at 37 international centers. They found that infections increased ischemic stroke risk 6-fold, whereas routine childhood vaccinations appeared to be protective and cold medications did not play a role. Although parents sometimes worry about rare neurologic consequences of vaccines, this study provides evidence that vaccines may help protect against a neurologic disease.

See p. 1459

From editorialists Biller & Heyer: “While further study is needed to clarify how infection increases stroke risk, one can speculate that the physiologic changes related to infection (systemic inflammation, dehydration, and activation of the coagulation system) could tip the balance in a child who is already at risk for stroke.”

See p. 1438

Prospective and longitudinal long-term employment outcomes after resective epilepsy surgery



Employment is an important goal of epilepsy surgery. This study compared employment levels in patients within the general population. The best vocational outcomes occurred for seizure-free patients who were employed or students prior to surgery, which may reflect a higher general psychosocial level of function.

See p. 1482

New von Hippel-Lindau manifestations develop at the same or decreased rates in pregnancy

The authors analyzed age-dependent manifestation rates in 52 VHL mutation carriers, 26 men and 26 women. They also investigated possible long-term effects using pregnancy intervals of 1, 3, and 5 years after conception. The pregnancy effect was not due to a naturally milder tumor development in women’s fertile ages, as new tumor development increased for both men and women.

See p. 1500

NB: “Delivery of epilepsy care to adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities,” p. 1512. To check out other Views & Reviews, point your browser to Neurology.org. At the end of the issue, check out the Clinical/Scientific Note discussing severe generalized dystonia and static ataxia with marked cerebellar atrophy. This week also includes a Resident & Fellow Mystery Case titled “Lafora periodic acid-Schiff inclusion bodies.”

Podcasts can be accessed at Neurology.org

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