



In Focus

Spotlight on the July 28 Issue

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Notable in *Neurology*

This issue features an article discussing how a selenoprotein biosynthesis defect may cause progressive encephalopathy in patients with elevated lactate and another describing the progression of mild cognitive impairment to Alzheimer dementia in clinical settings. A review article focuses on the temporal trends in safety of carotid endarterectomy in asymptomatic patients.

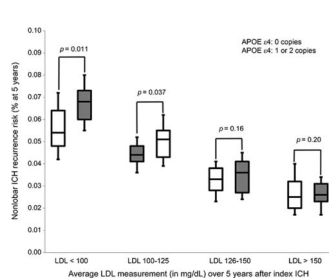
ARTICLES

Mitochondrial DNA sequence variation in multiple sclerosis

The authors analyzed 115 mitochondrial DNA variants and common haplogroups from 7,391 cases and 14,568 controls. Identification and validation of mitochondrial genetic variants associated with multiple sclerosis (MS) and primary progressive MS may lead to new targets for treatment and diagnostic tests for identifying mitochondria.

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APOE ε4 and lipid levels affect risk of recurrent nonlobar intracerebral hemorrhage



The authors examined longitudinal lipid levels in a cohort of intracerebral hemorrhage survivors to confirm the association between lipid fractions, APOE ε4 allele status, and risk of recurrent hemorrhage within a proportional hazards model.

The results showed that 2 risk factors, APOE genotype and circulating cholesterol levels, modify the risk of recurrent nonlobar intracerebral hemorrhage.

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SPECIAL ARTICLE

Evidence-based guideline summary: Evaluation, diagnosis, and management of facioscapulohumeral muscular dystrophy

This guideline analyzed relevant articles to develop evidence-based recommendations for the evaluation, diagnosis, prognostication, and treatment of facioscapulohumeral muscular dystrophy. Recommendations included testing these patients for undetected hearing loss and routinely inquiring about pain. Scapular fixation was judged to be safe and effective, and low-intensity aerobic exercises were judged to be potentially beneficial.

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VIEWS & REVIEWS

ABCD2 score and secondary stroke prevention: Meta-analysis and effect per 1,000 patients triaged

This meta-analysis of 14,000 patients found the ABCD2 score to be nonspecific for recurrent stroke, putting one-fifth with atrial fibrillation or carotid stenosis in "slow stream" prevention and classifying 40% of TIA mimics as "fast stream" with high risk for recurrent stroke. Stroke prevention clinics should focus on rapid expert clinical assessment, identification, and treatment for those at risk for early recurrent stroke.

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From editorialists Coutts & Barrett: "Discovery of serum biomarkers associated with TIA or early risk of stroke recurrence could inform future prediction models. What is clear from this article is that the ABCD2 score is not a perfect tool for triage and more work is required to improve the diagnostic accuracy and risk stratification of TIA."

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NB: "Evidence-based guideline: Evaluation, diagnosis, and management of facioscapulohumeral muscular dystrophy," see p. 357. To check out other Special Articles, point your browser to Neurology.org. At the end of the issue, check out the NeuroImages discussing Pseudo-Foster-Kennedy syndrome with optic nerve compression by the gyrus rectus and drawing in Alzheimer-type dementia. This week also includes a Resident & Fellow Section Mystery Case titled "A case of oil in ventricles: Deception for intraventricular hemorrhage."

Podcasts can be accessed at Neurology.org

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