



## In Focus

### Spotlight on the August 18 Issue

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#### Notable in *Neurology*

This issue features articles discussing inspiratory and expiratory muscle training in subacute stroke and the effect of clopidogrel plus aspirin on functional outcome after TIA or minor stroke. Another article focuses on retinal pathology in Susac syndrome and its detection by spectral-domain optical coherence tomography.

#### ARTICLES

##### Antiepileptic drugs and intrauterine death: A prospective observational study from EURAP

The authors found no difference in risk of intrauterine death in pregnant women with epilepsy exposed to antiepileptic drug monotherapy. The most important risk factors for miscarriage included maternal exposure to antiepileptic drug polytherapy and the presence of major congenital malformations in at least one of the parents.

See p. 580; Comment, p. 587

##### Effect of vaccinations on seizure risk and disease course in Dravet syndrome

The authors analyzed data from hospital medical files, child health clinics, and the vaccination register for children with Dravet syndrome and pathogenic *SCN1A* mutations. Their results suggest that vaccination-associated earlier seizure onset does not alter disease course in Dravet syndrome and that the risk of subsequent vaccination-associated seizures is probably vaccine-specific.

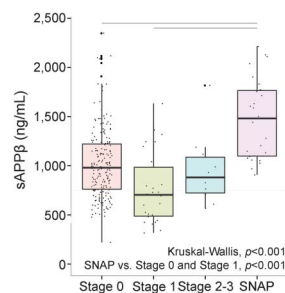
See p. 596

##### Cost-effectiveness of shared medical appointments for neuromuscular patients

This article describes the economic analysis of shared medical appointments alongside an earlier published trial of 272 patients with neuromuscular diseases. No differences in costs were found in quality-adjusted life-years. Specific conditions under which shared medical appointments were more cost-effective than an individual outpatient appointment were a minimum group size of 6 patients and the presence of their treating neurologist.

See p. 619

##### Amyloid precursor protein metabolism and inflammation markers in preclinical Alzheimer disease



The authors collected CSF from 266 cognitively normal volunteers to investigate markers involved in amyloid precursor protein processing, neuronal damage, and neuroinflammation. Their findings suggest that inflammation in the CNS increases in normal aging and is

intimately related to markers of neurodegeneration in the preclinical stages of Alzheimer disease and suspected non-Alzheimer pathology.

See p. 626

NB: "Worsening neurologic symptoms in a brain tumor patient," see p. e57. To check out other Resident & Fellow Clinical Reasoning submissions, point your browser to [Neurology.org](http://Neurology.org) and click on the link to the Resident & Fellow Section. At the end of the issue, check out the Views & Reviews article discussing whether or not to prescribe opioids for chronic noncancer pain. This week also includes a Video Neurolmage titled "Axial myoclonus after ischemic stroke."

Podcasts can be accessed at [Neurology.org](http://Neurology.org)