In Focus

Spotlight on the May 17 Issue

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Notable in *Neurology*

This issue features an article identifying determinants of white matter hyperintensity burden in patients with Fabry disease using a semiautomated volumetric MRI assessment method and another examining the long-term risk of recurrent cardiac, arterial, and venous events in young stroke patients. A featured article hypothesized that leisure-time physical activity was independently associated with decline in domain-specific cognitive performance.

From editorialist Rabinstein: "In fact, there is no perfect solution. Yet some basic principles deserve to be kept in mind. Albeit imperfect, prognostic scores (such as FUNC and ICH) can help standardize prognostication, and their use is advisable...by clinicians with extensive experience with this patient population."

See p. 1854

ARTICLES

Preinjury somatization symptoms contribute to clinical recovery after sport-related concussion

Patients' symptom presentations after concussion are a function of both preinjury and injury-related factors. This study demonstrated that athletes' preinjury ratings of somatization symptoms predicted their postconcussive symptom burden and subsequent symptom duration. These findings emphasize the role of premorbid psychological factors in clinical presentation and recovery after concussion.

See p. 1856

From editorialists Loring & Makdissi: "Concussion awareness increases the motivation to develop intervention strategies to facilitate recovery and maximize brain health. The identification of factors associated with prolonged recovery including somatization will ultimately facilitate intervention strategies to achieve these goals."

See p. 1852

Variability in physician prognosis and recommendations after intracerebral hemorrhage

Early predictions of outcome in the setting of severe brain hemorrhage are important for subsequent life and death decision-making. This survey of neurologists and neurosurgeons found variability in 30-day mortality prediction and

treatment recommendations across a wide range of cases. Such variability could have substantial influence on treatment decisions.

See p. 1864

Leisure-time physical activity associates with cognitive decline: The Northern Manhattan Study

The authors examined the association of self-reported physical activity with decline in cognition based on comprehensive neuropsychological examinations 5 years apart. In those with less physical activity, there was greater decline in processing speed and episodic memory among those with normal cognition at baseline. Further studies are needed.

See p. 1897

NB: "Time trends in incidence, case fatality, and mortality of intracerebral hemorrhage," see p. e206. To check out other Resident & Fellow Journal Club submissions, point your browser to Neurology.org and click on the link to the Resident & Fellow Section. At the end of the issue, check out the Clinical/Scientific Notes discussing m.13051G>A mitochondrial DNA mutation resulting in variable neurology and activated mitophagy and predicting motor improvement after stroke with clinical assessment and diffusion tensor imaging. This week also includes a Resident & Fellow Clinical Reasoning article titled "Heart to swallow."

Podcasts can be accessed at Neurology.org

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