In Focus

Spotlight on the February 9 Issue

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Notable in *Neurology*

This issue features an article quantifying the risk and predictors of ipsilateral ischemic stroke in patients with symptomatic carotid stenosis awaiting revascularization and another identifying different white matter hyperintensity patterns between 2 hemorrhage-prone cerebral small vessel diseases. A review article focuses on the accuracy of clinical diagnosis of Parkinson disease.

ARTICLES

Midlife milk consumption and substantia nigra neuron density at death

Increasing evidence suggests that diet is related to Parkinson disease (PD) incidence. These data confirm these findings by showing that milk intake is associated with nigral neurodegeneration before Parkinson disease onset. Associations may include a role for specific nutrients and food pathogens, but contamination with pesticides may be especially important.

See p. 512

From editorialists Chen & Marder: "Nevertheless, this study sets an excellent example of how epidemiologic studies can contribute to the search for causal mechanisms underlying PD. It further challenges others to adapt existing cohorts with extensive nongenetic data for PD research, a cost-effective approach."

See p. 496

Prospective study of plasma urate and risk of Parkinson disease in men and women

In this study based on 90,214 participants and a subsequent meta-analysis, men (but not women) with higher serum urate concentrations had a lower future risk of Parkinson disease. This finding strengthens evidence that urate may be protective against Parkinson disease or may slow preclinical disease progression.

See p. 520

Early- vs late-onset subcortical vascular cognitive impairment

EO-SVCI>LO-SVCI

This study suggests that the age at symptom onset should be taken into account in patients with subcortical vascular cognitive impairment (SVCI). Late-onset SVCI patients showed more

Alzheimer disease-related characteristics, whereas early-onset SVCI patients showed more pure vascular characteristics. The age at symptom onset is a crucial factor in determining distinct features of SVCI patients.

See p. 527

Real-time effects of centrotemporal spikes on cognition in rolandic epilepsy: An EEG-fMRI study

Centrotemporal spikes transiently disrupted functional brain networks responsible for language, behavior, and cognition using dynamic functional connectivity analysis based on EEG-fMRI. These findings suggest more aggressive suppression of centrotemporal spikes to reduce the risk of interictal neuropsychological impairments in rolandic epilepsy.

See p. 544

NB: "What the ancient Greeks and Romans knew (and did not know) about seasickness," p. 560. To check out other Historical Neurology articles, point your browser to Neurology.org. At the end of the issue, check out the Neurolmage exploring the visualization of nerve fibers surrounding a brachial plexus tumor using MR diffusion tensor imaging. This week also includes a Humanities story titled "The Dance."

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