In Focus

Spotlight on the January 10 Issue

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Notable in *Neurology*

This issue features an article that investigates mitophagy in 5 patients with severe dominantly inherited optic atrophy, and another that describes a novel sign of unilateral brain injury—a form of unwanted blink-associated contralateral eccentric saccades. A featured article discusses optimal second monotherapy for children with childhood absence epilepsy experiencing initial treatment failure.

ARTICLES

Clinical decision-making in functional and hyperkinetic movement disorders

See p. 118

From editorialists Hedera & Gambardella: “An accurate objective diagnostic test for FMD continues to be a major unmet need for a common group of neurologic disorders that typically have both a very high health care cost and a substantial psychological and social burden for patients.”

See p. 114

Insights gleaned by measuring patients’ stated goals for DBS: More than tremor

Integral to patient-centered care is the notion that patients’ goals matter. The authors employ a mixed-methods approach to examine the goals of patients with Parkinson disease for deep brain stimulation. Deep brain stimulation was effective in addressing patients’ goals, which were weakly related to standard outcome measures. These data suggest incorporation of a more systematic assessment of patients’ goals into clinical care.

See p. 124

A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of coenzyme Q10 in Huntington disease

See p. 152

From editorialist Raffaele Lodi: “The results of the present trial do not support the administration of coenzyme Q10 for reducing the functional decline in patients with HD (Class I evidence), and suggest that the mitochondrial oxidative metabolism impairment found in HD may be the endpoint of a variety of altered molecular pathways contributing to HD pathology.”

See p. 116

Brain activation in high-functioning older adults and falls: Prospective cohort study

The authors evaluate falls in cognitively normal older adults for cortical contributions. Higher prefrontal cortical activation levels during a cognitively demanding walking task predicted falls in high-functioning older adults. Brain activity changes preceded behavioral abnormalities on mobility tasks, and implicate neurobiological processes early in the pathogenesis of falls.

See p. 191

NB: “Neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorders,” see p. e10. To check out other Resident & Fellow Section Child Neurology articles, 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 *NeuroImage* discussing imaging stent-thrombus interaction in mechanical thrombectomy and another on drawing analysis in the assessment of patients with neurodegenerative diseases. This week also includes a Reflection titled “A woman from Kenosha.”

Podcasts can be accessed at Neurology.org

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