



In Focus

Spotlight on the May 30 issue

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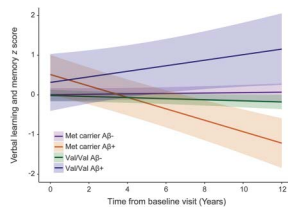


Notable in *Neurology*

This issue features an article that investigates the association of cerebral microbleeds with incident cognitive disease and another that determines that small reductions in delays to endovascular therapy lead to health benefits for patients. A featured American Academy of Neurology Special Article assesses the evidence for acute interventions to reduce brain injury in comatose adults after successful cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and makes recommendations.

ARTICLES

BDNF Val66Met predicts cognitive decline in the Wisconsin Registry for Alzheimer's Prevention



The authors provide evidence that the *BDNF* Met allele may hasten cognitive decline in memory and executive function in Alzheimer disease (AD). This longitudinal study further found that amyloid- β exacerbated this decline. The Met allele could be

a potential target for AD therapeutics.

See p. 2098

Increased connectivity of hub networks and cognitive impairment in multiple sclerosis

In this study, cognitive impairment in multiple sclerosis was related to altered communication of hub-rich networks. The default mode and frontoparietal networks showed increased functional connectivity, but only with more peripheral regions (i.e., non-hubs), in cognitively impaired patients. This seemingly negative shift in network balance potentially underlies cognitive dysfunction in multiple sclerosis.

See p. 2107

Autologous hematopoietic stem cell transplantation in multiple sclerosis: a meta-analysis

This meta-analysis summarizes the published evidence on autologous hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (aHSCT), a treatment not approved for multiple sclerosis (MS) but that can be relevant for patients with aggressive MS. The outcomes after aHSCT are highlighted as improved in recent studies (lower mortality and progression rates) and better in patients with early MS.

See p. 2115

From editorialists Burman and Fox: "Although direct comparisons to approved disease-modifying drugs are limited, these numbers imply that aHSCT is as effective as or superior to Food and Drug Administration–approved disease-modifying drugs."

See p. 2072

Skin nerve phosphorylated α -synuclein deposits in idiopathic REM sleep behavior disorder

Phosphorylated- α -synuclein (p- α -syn) deposits in patients with idiopathic REM sleep behavior disorder (RBD) might serve as early biomarkers of impending synucleinopathy. The authors searched for p- α -syn deposits in patients with polysomnographically confirmed idiopathic RBD and controls. Findings suggested that skin biopsy might detect p- α -syn deposits in the premotor stage of a synucleinopathy.

See p. 2128

NB: "Baló concentric sclerosis evolving from apparent tumefactive demyelination," p. 2150. To check out other Clinical/Scientific Notes, point your browser to Neurology.org. At the end of the issue, check out the *NeuroImage* presenting the simultaneous involvement of cerebrum and spinal cord in alveolar echinococcosis. This week also includes a Resident & Fellow Mystery Case titled "Don't fall for pseudo-INO!"

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