In Focus

Spotlight on the September 26 issue

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Notable in *Neurology*

This issue features an article that analyzes gastrointestinal manifestations in patients with myotonic dystrophy types 1 and 2 and another that determines sex differences in the development of Alzheimer disease endophenotypes. A featured article investigates whether the manner of patient consent affects clinical characteristics of patients with stroke.

ARTICLES

Epstein-Barr virus, cytomegalovirus, and multiple sclerosis susceptibility: A multiethnic study

This study highlights how multiethnic studies can provide insight into multiple sclerosis (MS) susceptibility. The authors found a strong and consistent association of Epstein-Barr virus antibody titers, but not cytomegalovirus, with MS risk across racial/ethnic groups. These findings support a strong biological link between Epstein-Barr virus infection and MS risk.

See p. 1330

Neuroinflammation drives anxiety and depression in relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis

In this large prospective study, patients with relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis underwent psychiatric, clinical, and radiologic evaluations. Mood alterations

correlated with ongoing neuroinflammation, even when subclinical, and could signal early disease reactivation. Biological events, including inflammation, are as important as traditional psychosocial factors in mood disorders.

See p. 1338

Developmental outcomes of cord blood transplantation for Krabbe disease: A 15-year study

The authors sought to describe long-term outcomes of children with early-infantile Krabbe disease who underwent hematopoietic stem cell transplantation in the first 7 weeks of life. Brain imaging, neurodiagnostic tests, and neurobehavioral evaluations were performed at baseline and follow-up. The results suggest that early hematopoietic stem cell transplantation improves lifespan and functional abilities.

See p. 1365

From editorialist Graf: "The developmental outcome findings in this study should help future parents, and state institutions, make difficult treatment decisions for their infants with Krabbe disease."

See p. 1318

Association of intracranial aneurysm rupture with smoking duration, intensity, and cessation

The effects of smoking intensity, cumulative dose, and cessation on aneurysm rupture risk are unknown. In this study, current smoking, smoking intensity, and smoking duration are associated with rupture status; further, increased risk persists in former smokers. The authors emphasize the importance of smoking cessation in patients with unruptured aneurysms.

See p. 1408

From editorialists Buis and Batjer: "This study confirms our worst fears: increasing the intensity and duration of smoking increases the odds of aneurysm rupture and quitting does not lead to improved odds in the short term. This finding has immediate and important implications for current practice."

See p. 1320

NB: "Benefit of dual-energy CT iodine overlay technique for T1-hyperintense brain lesion," p. 1426. To check out other *NeuroImages*, point your browser to Neurology.org. At the end of the issue, check out the Resident & Fellow Mystery Case discussing the diagnostic challenges in a patient with hypereosinophilia. This week also includes a Reflections: Neurology and the Humanities short prose titled "Doctors without weapons: 'You people are pathetic.'"

Podcasts can be accessed at Neurology.org

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