In Focus
Spotlight on the July 25 issue

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Notable in Neurology
This issue features an article that assesses odor identification as an indicator of presymptomatic Alzheimer disease pathogenesis and another that addresses whether a sex bias exists in care after intracerebral hemorrhage. A featured article examines the possible genotype-phenotype correlations of mutations in DNM1-related epileptic encephalopathy and the functional consequences based on structural modeling.

ARTICLES
A new potential biomarker for dementia with Lewy bodies: Skin nerve α-synuclein deposits
In this article, the authors describe a sensitive biomarker for dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB). Abnormal synuclein deposits in skin nerves were found in all patients with DLB, but never in patients with different forms of dementia. Skin biopsy is a simple and reliable method to study synucleinopathies in vivo.

See p. 318

From editorialists Postuma and Walker: “It is not inconceivable that dementia physicians will soon be performing skin biopsies as part of routine diagnostic practice.”

See p. 310

Slowing gait and risk for cognitive impairment: The hippocampus as a shared neural substrate
This article highlights slowing gait as an early, easily measured indicator of possible neurodegenerative disease. In older adults, gait slowing was associated with clinically adjudicated cognitive impairment after 14 years, explained by smaller right hippocampal volume. Slowing gait and clinically meaningful cognitive impairment may share a common cause of hippocampal degeneration.

See p. 336

Effects of increasing IV tPA-treated stroke mimic rates at CT-based centers on clinical outcomes
Initiatives to increase tissue plasminogen activator (tPA) treatment and efficiency have been successful, but may come at a cost. In this study, stroke mimic tPA rates doubled at CT-based hospitals and artificially increased overall favorable clinical outcomes. Diagnostic accuracy in clinical databases would minimize downstream costs to patients and the health care system.

See p. 343

BMI increase through puberty and adolescence is associated with risk of adult stroke
The authors evaluated the association of childhood body mass index (BMI) and BMI change through puberty to stroke risk in adult men. BMI increase through puberty and adolescence was associated with risk of adult stroke and intracerebral hemorrhage. Greater BMI increases during puberty also contributed to an increased stroke risk, partly due to increased blood pressure.

See p. 363

From editorialists Rexrode and Kimm: “These findings emphasize the need to target interventions for children and adolescents to prevent overweight and obesity in early adulthood and also reduce future cardiovascular morbidity.”

See p. 312

NB: “Enteroviral T-cell encephalitis related to immunosuppressive therapy including rituximab,” p. 408.
To check out other Clinical/Scientific Notes, point your browser to Neurology.org. At the end of the issue, check out the Resident & Fellow Section Mystery Case discussing CNS posttransplant lymphoproliferative disorder. This week also includes an online-only Reflections: Neurology and the Humanities short story titled “Discovering the patient within.”

Podcasts can be accessed at Neurology.org

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