Notable in Neurology this week
This issue features an article that reports a majority consensus that changes are needed to the classification of Charcot-Marie-Tooth diseases; another evaluates whether there is an association between amyloid-related imaging abnormalities with edema/effusion and specific biomarker patterns in bapineuzumab clinical trials. A featured Contemporary Issues article explores sex trends in authorship of academic/ medical publications.

Articles

Pregnancy decision-making in women with multiple sclerosis treated with natalizumab: I: Fetal risks; and Pregnancy decision-making in women with multiple sclerosis treated with natalizumab: II:

Maternal risks
The featured study describes the effect of exposure to natalizumab in pregnant women with multiple sclerosis and the pattern of disease activity after suspending natalizumab due to pregnancy. The high risk of disease reactivation after drug suspension can be reduced by maintaining natalizumab until conception and resuming the drug in early postpartum.

Page 449 and page 450

From editorialist Marrie: “These studies provide information that is highly relevant to decisions surrounding the use of natalizumab in women considering pregnancy, particularly with respect to the timing of discontinuation and resumption of therapy.”

Page 443

Relapse occurrence in women with multiple sclerosis during pregnancy in the new treatment era
In this study, patients with multiple sclerosis who were on fingolimod and natalizumab prior to pregnancy experienced relapses during the first and third trimesters. A longer washout period of disease-modifying therapies was associated with higher relapse risk. The updated risk of relapse should be discussed with patients who are contemplating pregnancy.

Page 451

A benchmark approach to hemorrhage risk management of cavernous malformations
Risk of hemorrhage associated with a cavernous malformation (CM) is increased in the presence of severe neurologic deficits. The authors analyzed medical records of patients with CM for risk factors, including volume, location, and characteristics. The identification of risk factors can assist in treatment decision-making for patients with unruptured CM.

Page 453

Continued
Neurogranin as a predictor of memory and executive function decline in MCI patients

Synaptic markers can be utilized for early recognition of Alzheimer disease in a clinical setting. In this study, CSF neurogranin levels correlated with memory performance and predicted longitudinal memory and executive function decline. Biomarker identification for cognitive decline helps elucidate disease processes and enables earlier and more targeted treatments.

Page 457

NB: “Gummatous neurosyphilis: An atypical presentation in a patient with HIV,” p. e914. To check out other Resident & Fellow Teaching NeuroImages, point your browser to Neurology.org/N and click on the link to the Resident & Fellow Section. At the end of the issue, check out the Clinical/Scientific Note discussing the use of bilateral double-target deep brain stimulation for essential tremor. This week also includes a NeuroImage titled “An extremely rare giant skin cirsoid angioma with brain compression.”

Relapse occurrence in women with multiple sclerosis during pregnancy in the new treatment era (see p. 451)

1. Featured Article: Relapse occurrence in women with multiple sclerosis during pregnancy in the new treatment era
2. What’s Trending: Sleep architecture and risk of dementia

This podcast begins and closes with Dr. Robert Gross, Editor-in-Chief, briefly discussing highlighted articles from the March 6, 2018, issue of Neurology. In the first segment, Dr. Stacey Clardy talks with Dr. Raed Alroughani about his article on relapse occurrence during pregnancy in women with multiple sclerosis. In the second part of the podcast, you’ll hear Dr. Jeff Burns interview Dr. Sudha Seshadri about sleep and dementia risk.

Disclosures can be found at Neurology.org/podcast.