Robert A. Gross, MD, PhD, FAAN, Editor-in-Chief, *Neurology*®

Notable in *Neurology*® this week

This issue features an article that evaluates the possible relationship between Guillain-Barré syndrome and recent surgery; another characterizes the clinical features of spinocerebellar ataxias 1–3 and assesses patients' oculomotor dysfunction to see if it can function as a sensitive marker. A featured Views & Reviews article examines cognitive impairment incidence in patients with spinal cord injury.

Articles

The relationship between deficit in digit span and genotype in nonsense mutation Duchenne muscular dystrophy

The relationship between working memory and genotype in Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) is unknown. In this study, forward and backward digit span were lower in nonsense mutations downstream of DMD exon 45, showing correlation between specific cognitive deficits and genotype. Combining cognitive testing with genetic information can improve clinical care in DMD.

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MORE ONLINE

🎧 Editor's Summary

Audio summary of highlighted articles.

NPub.org/edsum

Antiepileptic drug clearances during pregnancy and clinical implications for women with epilepsy

This study of pregnant women with epilepsy demonstrated increased maximal antiepileptic drug clearances in the first and second trimester, with seizure frequency worsening when ratio-to-target blood level concentrations fell by >35%. Neurologists can use medication levels to adjust doses proactively to maintain seizure stability and improve pregnancy outcomes.

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Left atrial diameter and vascular brain injury on MRI: The Cardiovascular Health Study

Left atrial dilation (LAD) has an association with ischemic stroke risk, but less is known about left atrial size and MRI-defined vascular brain injury. In this study, LAD was independently associated with prevalent brain infarcts, particularly nonlacunar infarcts, but not leukoaraiosis. Understanding the association between LAD and brain injury may improve stroke prevention strategies.

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Contemporary Issues: Innovations in Education

Incorporating sleep medicine content into medical school through neuroscience core curricula

In this article, the authors highlight the current state of and need for sleep education in medical school; opportunities for curricula to incorporate sleep medicine education, primarily through neuroscience/neurology courses, are presented. Neurology curricular champions are important in order to incorporate sleep medicine into the education of health professionals.

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Continued

From editorialist Smith: "Our ability to provide the best patient-centered care to the 1 in 6 individuals with a brain disease may depend on successfully implementing this type of team-based curricular approach across multiple neurology subspecialties."

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NB: "Spinal tuberculosis masquerading lung malignancy," p. 632. To check out other Resident & Fellow Section Mystery Cases, 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 a rare case of myasthenia gravis presentation after alemtuzumab therapy for multiple sclerosis. This week also includes a NeuroImage titled "Late Lyme neuroborreliosis with chronic encephalomyelitis."

NEW EPISODE

Neurology[®]

PODCAST

September 25, 2018

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Antiepileptic drug clearances during pregnancy and clinical implications for women with epilepsy (see p. 592)

1. Antiepileptic drug clearances during pregnancy and clinical implications for women with epilepsy
2. AAN Position Statement: Lawful physician-hastened death

In the first segment, Dr. Derek Bauer talks with Dr. Paula Emanuela Voinescu about her paper on antiepileptic drug (AED) clearances during pregnancy and the relationship between AED serum concentration and seizure frequency. In the second part of the podcast, we are featuring a discussion with Dr. Jason Crowell and Dr. James Russell on the recent AAN position statement regarding lawful physician-hastened death.

Disclosures can be found at Neurology.org.

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Spotlight on the September 25 issue

Robert A. Gross

Neurology 2018;91;583-584

DOI 10.1212/WNL.0000000000006232

This information is current as of September 24, 2018

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Neurology® is the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology. Published continuously since 1951, it is now a weekly with 48 issues per year. Copyright © 2018 American Academy of Neurology. All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.