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

Notable in *Neurology* this week

This issue features an article that investigates the influence of vascular risk factors at younger ages on brain volume; another suggests that beyond frontotemporal dementia and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, a psychiatric phenotype exists within *C9orf72* kindreds. A featured article examines the utility of digital biomarkers in Parkinson disease, using smartphone motor testing to distinguish idiopathic REM sleep behavior disorder.

Articles

Prestroke physical activity could influence acute stroke severity (part of PAPSIGOT)

Based on Swedish stroke registry data, this study suggests that physical activity, such as walking 4 hours per week or exercising 2–3 hours per week before stroke, in combination with younger age, could result in a less severe stroke. Prestroke physical inactivity was partially associated with increased stroke severity.

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From editorialists Spartano & Bernhardt: “Maintaining an active lifestyle may help to retain this collateral circulation, as well as having other protective effects on cognitive reserve that we have yet to fully understand. A physically active person who has a stroke might, therefore, be protected.”

Page 727

MRI load of cerebral microvascular lesions and neurodegeneration, cognitive decline, and dementia

In this cohort study, MRI load for neurodegeneration was more strongly associated with cognitive decline and dementia than that of cerebral microvascular lesions. The deleterious effect of microvascular lesions on cognition is mediated by progression and development of cerebral white matter hyperintensities. Reducing cerebral microvascular lesions may preserve cognitive function.

Page 736

Nocturnal supervision and SUDEP risk at different epilepsy care settings

The authors conducted a case-control study of sudden unexpected death in epilepsy (SUDEP) to ascertain the effects of nocturnal seizures and supervision. The presence and frequency of nocturnal seizures increased SUDEP risk. The incidence of SUDEP differed between sites and was higher at the site with less supervision, suggesting that supervision is protective for SUDEP.

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From editorialists Devinsky, Friedman, & Besag: “If we monitor every person with epilepsy every night, how many false alarms will we create, with lost sleep and anxiety for the patient and caregiver? How many SUDEPs will we prevent? How much guilt will result from not responding quickly to an alarm?”

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MORE ONLINE

🎧 Editor's Summary

Audio summary of highlighted articles.

[NPub.org/edsum](https://www.neurology.org/edsum)

Continued

Changes in subjective experience elicited by direct stimulation of the human orbitofrontal cortex

In patients with intracranial electrodes, electrical stimulation of the orbitofrontal cortex (OFC) caused a rich variety of olfactory, gustatory, and somatosensory changes of either neutral (right side) or negative valence (left side). This highlights the role of the human OFC in sensory and affective integration.

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NB: "Timing of milestone competency acquisition in neurology residency: What by when?" p. 748. To check out other Contemporary Issues: Innovations in Education papers, point your browser to Neurology.org/N. At the end of the issue, check out the Video NeuroImage illustrating use of dermoskeletics to preserve mobility and function in a patient with inclusion body myositis. This week also includes a Clinical/Scientific Note titled "NfL is a biomarker for adult-onset leukoencephalopathy with axonal spheroids and pigmented glia."

NEW EPISODE

October 16, 2018

CME Opportunity:

Listen to this week's *Neurology* Podcast and earn 0.5 AMA PRA Category 1 CME Credits™ by answering the multiple-choice questions in the online Podcast quiz.

Primary angiitis of the CNS and reversible cerebral vasoconstriction syndrome: A comparative study (see p. 734)

1. Featured Article: Primary angiitis of the CNS and reversible cerebral vasoconstriction syndrome: A comparative study
2. What's Trending: Cannabis and chronic neuropathic pain

Dr. Andy Southerland talks with Dr. Anne Ducros about her paper on primary angiitis of the CNS and reversible cerebral vasoconstriction syndrome. In the second part of the podcast, Dr. Heather Harle focuses her interview with Dr. Haggai Sharon on the use of cannabis analgesia in chronic neuropathic pain.

Disclosures can be found at Neurology.org.

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Spotlight on the October 16 issue

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