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

Notable in *Neurology* this week

This issue features an article that examines the utility of neural metrics to identify patients with HIV-associated neurocognitive disorder; another provides reference values for clinically meaningful improvements due to physical rehabilitation in patients with multiple sclerosis. A featured article evaluates the diagnostic value of volume perfusion CT in patients with transient focal neurologic deficits from epileptic seizures that mimic stroke symptoms.

Articles

Early MoCA predicts long-term cognitive and functional outcome and mortality after stroke

In patients with stroke, a brief cognitive assessment with the Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) at admission helps predict multiple unfavorable long-term outcomes. In this study, patients scoring <26 on the MoCA within 1 week after stroke were at increased risk of cognitive impairment, functional impairment, and mortality across a 3-year follow-up.

Page 911

From editorialists Marsh & Fazekas: "This study finally identifies a relatively simple screen that can be used in the acute setting that appears able to effectively predict long-term cognitive trajectory and functional outcome after stroke, including death."

Page 903

Gray matter differences in patients with functional movement disorders

Functional movement disorders (FMD) are common but poorly understood; in this article, the authors show corresponding brain structure abnormalities. Patients with FMD exhibited altered gray matter volume in critical components of the limbic and sensorimotor circuitry, reinforcing prior research implicating abnormalities in these networks in the pathophysiology of FMD.

Page 914

Age and sex differences in burnout, career satisfaction, and well-being in US neurologists

The authors studied age and sex differences in burnout for US neurologists. For similar-age neurologists, burnout frequency was the same for men and women. However, women experienced burnout differently than men, suggesting the need for sex-specific burnout mitigation strategies and addressing inequitable treatment of women in the workplace.

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MORE ONLINE

🎧 Editor's Summary

Audio summary of highlighted articles.

NPub.org/edsum

Continued

From editorialists Brashear & Vickrey: "Now that we know there is a problem and have evidence regarding root causes and potential solutions, neurology as a profession needs to implement the solutions that are within our scope and advocate for policy changes necessary to make substantive changes to address this foundational challenge."

Page 907

Special Article

Evidence in focus: Nusinersen use in spinal muscular atrophy: Report of the Guideline Development, Dissemination, and Implementation Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology

This review presents the Classification of Evidence for trials investigating nusinersen for patients with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA). Class I evidence showed that nusinersen improves motor function for infants and children with specific SMA types. The review also highlights nusinersen's safety profile, details of regulatory approvals, coverage factors, and practical and ethical use considerations.

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NB: "Complex bilateral corpus callosum infarction after paradoxical embolism: Lightning strikes twice," p. e1947. 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 NeuroImage suggesting translocator protein PET may help in the detection of active CNS inflammation. This week also includes a Reflections: Neurology and the Humanities essay titled "Burnout, illness, and return in the twilight."

NEW EPISODE

November 13, 2018

CME Opportunity:

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Gray matter differences in patients with functional movement disorders (see p. 914)

1. Featured Article: Gray matter differences in patients with functional movement disorders
2. What's Trending: Recovery of over-ground walking after chronic motor complete spinal cord injury

In the first segment, Dr. David Lapidus talks with Dr. Carine Maurer about her paper on gray matter differences in patients with functional movement disorders. In the second part of the podcast, Dr. Alex Menze focuses his interview with Claudia Angeli on recovery of over-ground walking after chronic motor complete spinal cord injury.

Disclosures can be found at Neurology.org.

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Spotlight on the November 13 issue

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