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Notable in *Neurology* this week

This issue features an article that explores potential mechanisms for modulation of visual hallucinations by nystagmus; another studies iron deposition as a potential biomarker of chronic migraine. A featured Views & Reviews examines 3 established approaches and proposes a new 4-step approach for estimating the prevalence of multiple sclerosis in the United States.

Articles

Validation of an algorithm for identifying MS cases in administrative health claims datasets

Prevalence estimates of multiple sclerosis (MS) are crucial in understanding the national burden, planning health services, and supporting advocacy. The authors developed an algorithm to identify cases of MS in administrative health claims datasets. They recommend an algorithm that requires ≥ 3 MS-related claims from any combination of inpatient, outpatient, or disease-modifying therapy utilization within 1 year.

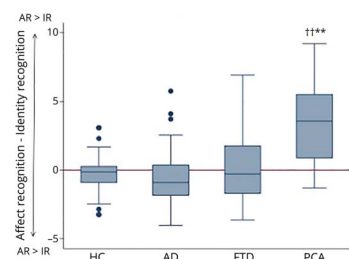
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Education and cognitive reserve in old age

Assuming that education is an indicator of cognitive reserve, the authors examined whether higher education is associated with more positive cognitive trajectories. A large cohort of older participants underwent annual cognitive testing, including subgroups that developed incident dementia. Education's contribution to cognitive reserve may be limited to cognitive function prior to old age.

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Relative preservation of facial expression recognition in posterior cortical atrophy



Contrary to the tragedy narrative surrounding dementia, patients can retain valuable lifelong abilities. For example, despite degeneration of visual cortex in posterior cortical atrophy, a comparison of facial identity and expression recognition tasks demonstrated relative sparing of emotion recognition. This offers an avenue for preserved human connection despite neurodegenerative disease.

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MORE ONLINE

🎧 Editor's Summary

Audio summary of highlighted articles.

NPub.org/edsum

Continued

Somatosensory system integrity explains differences in treatment response after stroke

Integrity of the somatosensory system is important for maximizing gains in hand function after stroke. Following 3 weeks of therapy targeting finger movements, behavioral and imaging assessments of the somatosensory system best explained treatment gains. Measures of neural injury and neural function can predict interpatient differences in rehabilitation therapy gains poststroke.

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NB: "Acute ischemic stroke due to painless long-segmental aortic dissection," p. 484. To check out other NeuroImages, point your browser to Neurology.org/N. At the end of the issue, check out the Resident & Fellow Clinical Reasoning article discussing the presentation of bilateral wrist pain in a teenage boy with recent weight loss, and another on dyspnea and muscle weakness in a middle-aged man. This week also includes a Clinical/Scientific Note titled "Peripheral neuropathy associated with silver toxicity."

NEW EPISODE



March 5, 2019

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The prevalence of MS in the United States: A population-based estimate using health claims data (see p. 457)

1. The prevalence of MS in the United States: A population-based estimate using health claims data
2. What's Trending: SHINE stroke trial

In the first segment, Dr. Stacey Clardy talks with Dr. Mitchell Wallin about his paper on the prevalence of MS in the United States. In the second part of the podcast, Dr. Nicole Chiota focuses her interview with Dr. Kevin Barrett on the SHINE stroke trial.

Disclosures can be found at Neurology.org.

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Spotlight on the March 5 issue

Robert A. Gross

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