Notable in Neurology this week

This issue features an article that considers the influence of apathy, impulsivity, and behavioral change on survival in patients with frontotemporal dementia, progressive supranuclear palsy, and corticobasal syndrome; another revises the Airlie House ALS Clinical Trials Consensus Guidelines to improve clinical trial design and accelerate development of effective treatments. A featured Views & Reviews article examines the clinical presentation, diagnostic workup, and management of neuromuscular disorders in patients treated with anti-programmed cell death protein 1 monoclonal antibodies.

Articles

ATN profiles among cognitively normal individuals and longitudinal cognitive outcomes

The ability to predict cognitive decline is important to clinicians and individuals at risk. In the reported cohort, there was evidence for accelerated cognitive decline among those with abnormal CSF levels of amyloid, tau, and p-tau. Accumulation of both amyloid plaques and neurofibrillary tangles may be necessary for acceleration in neuronal loss.

Page 652

From editorialists Vos & Duara: “The current ATN framework is likely an important first step in designing an expanding framework that could include biomarkers of other pathologies (e.g., vascular pathology or inflammation) so as to better understand not only AD pathology, but also AD-related processes and genetic, demographic, lifestyle, and clinical risk factors.”

Page 643

Cortical cholinergic denervation in primary progressive aphasia with Alzheimer pathology

A large proportion of patients with primary progressive aphasia (PPA) have primary Alzheimer disease (AD) neuropathology and may benefit from cholinergic therapy. In such patients, the authors found prominent depletion of basal forebrain cholinergic neuron and cortical cholinergic axons. Cholinergic treatment is justified in patients with PPA who have positive AD biomarkers.

Page 653

Dietary patterns during adulthood and cognitive performance in midlife: The CARDIA study

The effect of diet on midlife cognitive performance is largely unknown. In this study, greater adherence to “heart-healthy” dietary patterns during adulthood were associated with less cognitive decline and less likelihood of cognitive impairment at midlife. Diets rich in fruit and vegetables, moderate in nuts, fish, and alcohol, and low in meat may provide neuroprotection in midlife.

Page 654; Editorial, page 645

Continued
A survey of risk tolerance to multiple sclerosis therapies
The authors evaluated risk tolerance among people with multiple sclerosis using real-world risks of therapies. Despite a broad range, male sex, younger age, greater disability, and current multiple sclerosis therapy were associated with higher risk tolerance. Understanding risk tolerance and its heterogeneity may improve patient satisfaction and adherence.

Page 658

From editorialists McDonnell & Marriott: “An understanding of patient perceptions of risk is a crucial aspect of patient-centered care and truly shared decision-making. This is and will continue to be increasingly important given the welcome expansion in treatment options that also come with increasing complexity and potential for harm.”

Page 647

NB: “Cortical and bithalamic hypometabolism by FDG-PET/CT in a patient with sporadic fatal insomnia,” p. 675. To check out other Clinical/Scientific Notes, point your browser to Neurology.org/N. At the end of the issue, check out the Resident & Fellow Pearls & Oysters discussing a rare case of bismuth toxic encephalopathy. This week also includes a NeuroImage titled “Polioyelitis in ancient Greece (5th century BC)?”

NEW EPISODE

April 2, 2019

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.

Automated seizure detection accuracy for ambulatory EEG recordings (see p. 649)

1. Automated seizure detection accuracy for ambulatory EEG recordings
2. What’s Trending: SHINE Stroke Trial

In the first segment, Dr. Derek Bauer talks with Dr. Stephan Schuele about his paper on automated seizure detection accuracy for ambulatory EEG recordings. In the second part of the podcast, Dr. Nicole Chiota-McCollum focuses her interview with Dr. Kevin Barrett on the SHINE stroke trial.

Disclosures can be found at Neurology.org.
Spotlight on the April 2 issue
Robert A. Gross
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