### In Focus

José G. Merino, MD, MPhil, Editor-in-Chief, Neurology®



### Notable in *Neurology* this week

This issue features an article that quantifies the economic and health-related quality of life burden incurred by households with a child with spinal muscular atrophy; another investigates the relationship between the ATN model and risk of dementia and cognitive decline in individuals with subjective cognitive impairment. A featured Contemporary Issues article describes the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the NINDS CREST-2 stroke prevention trial and the steps that were taken so that trial objectives could still be met.

### **Articles**

## Sex differences in IV thrombolysis treatment for acute ischemic stroke: A systematic review and meta-analysis

This updated meta-analysis of 24 studies published between 2008 and 2018 found 13% lower odds of IV recombinant tissue plasminogen activator treatment in women. The results show that although the magnitude of the disparity has decreased, it persists, and more action is needed to ensure equitable access to stroke therapy for women and men.

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## Validation of serum neurofilaments as prognostic and potential pharmacodynamic biomarkers for ALS

Biomarkers are needed for phase II clinical trials of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) therapies. In a study comparing several neurofilament assays, serum neurofilament light, but not phosphorylated neurofilament heavy, emerged as a clinically validated biomarker with both prognostic and potential pharmacodynamic utility for ALS.

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## Different phenotypes in dermatomyositis associated with anti-MDA5 antibody: Study of 121 cases

Anti-melanoma differentiation-associated gene 5 antibody (anti-MDA5) was identified recently in some patients with dermatomyositis, but the clinical phenotype has not been described fully. This study found that patients who are anti-MDA5+ have 3 distinct systemic syndromes, each associated with a different prognosis.

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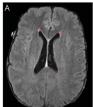
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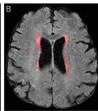
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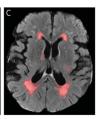
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## In Focus

### White matter hyperintensity burden in acute stroke patients differs by ischemic stroke subtype







White matter hyperintensity (WMH) is a radiologic marker with prognostic implications. In an international, multicenter, hospital-based cohort of patients with acute stroke, the extent of WMH burden differed according to the putative etiology, with the highest burden in patients with small vessel disease.

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NB: "Tau deposition in the spinal cord is not specific for CTE-ALS," p. 37. To check out other Clinical/Scientific Notes, point your browser to Neurology.org/N. At the end of the issue, check out the NeuroImage discussing the surgical treatment of chiasmal glioma in neurofibromatosis 1, and another on cavitating leukodystrophy as a manifestation of cerebral involvement in MFN2 neuropathy. Also included is the Resident & Fellow Section Clinical Reasoning article "Multifocal neuropathies in a patient with Waldenstrom macroglobulinemia and prior borreliosis."

### **NEW EPISODE**



July 7, 2020

## Genotyping single nucleotide polymorphisms for allele-selective therapy in Huntington disease (see the June issue of *Neurology*\* *Genetics*)

- 1. Genotyping single nucleotide polymorphisms for allele-selective therapy in Huntington disease
- 2. What's Trending: Telephone-based cognitive-behavioral therapy for depression in Parkinson disease: A randomized controlled trial

In the first segment, Dr. Jason Crowell talks with Dr. Daniel Claassen about his *Neurology: Genetics* paper on genotyping single nucleotide polymorphisms for allele-selective therapy in Huntington disease. In the second part of the podcast, Dr. Jeffrey Ratliff focuses his discussion with Dr. Roseanne Dobkin on telephone-based CBT for depression in patients with Parkinson disease.

Disclosures can be found at Neurology.org.

**No CME this week:** Interviews based on articles from *Neurology*® *Clinical Practice, Neurology: Genetics*, and *Neurology*® *Neuroimmunology* & *Neuroinflammation* are excluded from the CME program.



### Spotlight on the July 7 issue

José G. Merino
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