

WHAT'S
HAPPENING
IN

Without Borders



From the Editor

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Neurology Without Borders publishes experiences and perspectives from neurologists on global health research.

The Latest Articles section highlights studies with a global and community health focus. In a recently published article by Lin et al.,¹ the authors analyzed the geographic variation in neurologist density, neurologic conditions, and neurologist involvement in neurologic care in the United States using Medicare data. The authors found that number of neurologists in an area varies substantially by region, but the prevalence of patients with neurologic conditions in the various regions did not (293 vs 311 per 1,000 beneficiaries in the lowest vs highest quintiles, respectively). In addition, the authors found that the proportion of patients with neurologic conditions seen by a neurologist varied by condition.

In another article titled “Association of race and ethnicity to incident epilepsy, or epileptogenesis, after subdural hematoma,” authors Brown et al.² studied whether race is associated with the development of epilepsy after subdural hematoma (SDH). The authors used claims data from emergency departments and hospitals in California to identify adults ≥ 18 years admitted with first time and nontraumatic SDH from 2005 to 2011 and followed them up for at least 1 year for revisits associated with epilepsy. The analysis found that Black patients had an increased risk for hospital revisit for epilepsy compared to White patients. This association persisted with subgroup analysis, and the authors conclude that, “Our results should prompt additional investigation into socioeconomic and health service-related factors that may underlie this observation.”

Read the Without Borders blog to learn more about the innovative approaches and concentrated efforts needed to address and better understand the challenges impacting global health.

References

1. Lin CC, Callaghan BC, Burke JF, et al. Geographic variation in neurologist density and neurologic care in the United States. *Neurology* 2021;96:e309–e321.
2. Brown SC, King ZA, Kuohn L, et al. Association of race and ethnicity to incident epilepsy, or epileptogenesis, after subdural hematoma. *Neurology* 2020;95:e2890–e2899.



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