Notable in Neurology This Week
This issue features an article that investigates the association between early neurologic recovery, practice pattern variation, and endotracheal intubation during status epilepticus; another describes the development of a new quality of life measure for boys and men with Duchenne muscular dystrophy. A featured Contemporary Issues discusses the ethics of searching for covert consciousness.

Articles

Association of Refractory Pain in the Acute Phase After Subarachnoid Hemorrhage With Continued Outpatient Opioid Use
Patients with aneurysmal subarachnoid hemorrhage (aSAH) have severe headache at onset and during the following weeks; they often receive opioids while in the hospital. This retrospective study found that continued outpatient opioid use was common after aSAH and associated with refractory inpatient pain. Effective therapies that treat post-aSAH pain may curb continued opioid use.
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From editorialists Bernardini and Brust: “The observation that pain burden but not cumulative opioid dosage was associated with continued opioid use does not mean that unfettered opioid use in patients with aSAH is without risk . . . [The authors] appropriately recommend the use of opioid-sparing analgesics in the management of aSAH pain.”
Page 873

Association of Gyrification Pattern, White Matter Changes, and Phenotypic Profile in Patients With Parkinson Disease
The clinical phenotype in patients with Parkinson disease may be akinetic- or tremor-dominant. In this study, the authors found that cortical gyrification changes in patients with Parkinson disease differ by phenotype and are possibly mediated by underlying white matter microstructural abnormalities.
Page 884

Timing and Impact of Psychiatric, Cognitive, and Motor Abnormalities in Huntington Disease
A large multicenter retrospective study of patients with Huntington disease found that 42% had at least one psychiatric or cognitive symptom before any motor manifestations of the disease. Psychiatric and cognitive symptoms were associated with significantly reduced functional capacity and hence require early recognition and treatment.
Page 885

Editorial, page 875

Continued
Association of Physical Activity and APOE Genotype With Longitudinal Cognitive Change in Early Parkinson Disease

The mechanisms through which physical activity has a beneficial effect on patients with Parkinson disease are not well understood. This study found that increased physical activity attenuates the observed association of APOE e4 with lower cognitive performance in these patients. Increased physical activity may protect against early cognitive decline in patients with Parkinson disease.

Page 888

From editorialists Raber et al.: "[The authors] are to be commended for highlighting gene–physical activity interactions as a next frontier in the ongoing quest for personalized disease-slowing treatment in PD … If replicated, the important finding by [the authors] could guide the development of E genotype–based, targeted lifestyle interventions in patients with PD."

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NEW EPISODE

May 11, 2021

Association of CAG Repeat Length in the Huntington Gene With Cognitive Performance in Young Adults (see p. 886)

In the first segment, Dr. Jason Crowell discusses the relationship between CAG repeat length and cognition in young adults with Dr. Jordan Schultz. In the second part of the podcast, Dr. Andy Southerland talks with Dr. Mijail Serruya about developing a brain-machine interface for patients with stroke.

Disclosures can be found at Neurology.org.

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