Notable in Neurology This Week

This issue features an article that investigates the influence of cognitive demands on motor performance during acute stroke recovery; another examines the associations between neighborhood socioeconomic status and 90-day poststroke outcomes. A featured article determines the prevalence and natural history of sporadic inclusion body myositis in a 40-year population-based study.

Articles


Pregnancy-associated stroke is associated with considerable maternal morbidity and mortality. In this Finnish population-based, chart-validated cohort study, the incidence of pregnancy-associated stroke doubled from 1987 to 2016. Careful pregnancy surveillance and risk factor management, and extending to puerperium, is important, especially in older expectant mothers.

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From editorialists Miller and Lefert: “The Karjalainen et al. study is the latest in a string of epidemiologic studies illustrating the steady increase in maternal stroke. Neurologists, it is long past time to take notice of this disturbing trend.”

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Added Value of Quantitative Apparent Diffusion Coefficient Values for Neuroprognostication After Cardiac Arrest

This study showed that performing brain MRI is feasible in patients after cardiac arrest to document hypoxic injury. Adding quantitative apparent diffusion coefficient analysis to conventional clinical examination and neurophysiologic testing in these patients may improve the prediction of good neurologic recovery.

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Cardiac Autonomic Dysfunction and Risk of Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy

Being able to identify patients at high risk of sudden unexpected death in epilepsy (SUDEP) is a major challenge. In this retrospective, case-control study, patients with subsequent SUDEP had an abnormal cardiac autonomic response to hyperventilation compared to controls. The authors suggested that an index reflecting change in heart rate upon hyperventilation may predict the risk of SUDEP.

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Continued
Views & Reviews

Laryngeal Dystonia: Multidisciplinary Update on Terminology, Pathophysiology, and Research Priorities

A multidisciplinary panel of experts reviewed recent clinical and scientific progress in understanding laryngeal dystonia. They provided revised terminology for unified classification of the disorder and concrete recommendations for research toward improved clinical management of these patients. The authors concluded that clinical challenges in the diagnosis and treatment of laryngeal dystonia should guide research in the field.

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NB: "Teaching NeuroImages: Distinguishing Papilledema From Pseudopapilledema Using Optical Coherence Tomography," p. e2666. To check out other Resident & Fellow Section Teaching NeuroImages, point your browser to Neurology.org/N and click on the link to the Resident & Fellow Section. At the end of the issue, check out the Resident & Fellow Section Pearls & Oy-sters article discussing the disconnect between a proven pathogenic mutation and a clinical phenotype in a patient initially diagnosed with McArdle disease. This week also includes a Humanities in Neurology article titled "Driveway Moments and Decoy Stories: Moral Injury in Medicine."

NEW EPISODE

Neurology® PODCAST

May 25, 2021

Stroke in Pregnancy and Puerperium: Validated Incidence Trends With Risk Factor Analysis in Finland 1987–2016 (see p. 980)

In the first segment, Dr. Stacey Clardy speaks with Dr. Petra Ijäs about the incidence of stroke during pregnancy or puerperium in Finland from 1987 to 2016. In the second part of the podcast, Dr. David Lapides talks with Dr. Emma Ciafaloni about management of pregnancy in myasthenia gravis.

Disclosures can be found at Neurology.org.

CME Opportunity: Listen to this week’s Neurology® Podcast and earn 0.5 AMA PRA Category 1 CME Credits™ by completing the online podcast quiz.