A SOD1 gene mutation in a patient with slowly progressing familial ALS

In the article "A SOD1 gene mutation in a patient with slowly progressing familial ALS" by Penco et al. (Neurology 1999;53:404–406), the missense mutation of the SOD1 gene was misidentified, as reported by Gellera et al. (Neuromuscul Disord 2001;11:404–410). The correct identification is GLy12**Arg** (**G**GC \rightarrow **C**GC), not Gly12**Ala** (G**G**C \rightarrow **G**CC).

PRISMS-4: Long-term efficacy of interferon-β-1a in relapsing MS

The article "PRISMS-4: Long-term efficacy of interferon- β -1a in relapsing MS" by the PRISMS Study Group and the University of British Columbia MS/MRI Analysis Group (Neurology 2001;55:1628–1636) contained an error in the *Results* section. The text stated that the Rx44 group had "a reduction of 6.2% in BOD compared with increases of 3.4% for Rx22, 7.2% for placebo/22, and 9.7% for placebo/44..." However, the values were reversed for the placebo/22 and placebo/44 groups, which experienced BOD increases of 9.7% and 7.2%, respectively. The authors apologize for the error.

ADEM: Distinct disease or part of the MS spectrum?

In the editorial "ADEM: Distinct disease or part of the MS spectrum?" by Hartung and Grossman (Neurology 2001;56:1257–1260), three large studies were compared and the findings tabulated. In one of those studies, which included children from the United Kingdom in whom relapses occurred immediately after ADEM, Dale et al. used the term MDEM. Dale et al. have identified inconsistencies in the data referring to their retrospective study as presented in the editorial. Below is a revised table, in which the data in the fourth column refer to the ADEM cases only and not both the ADEM and MDEM cases included in the Dale et al. series.

Table Dale et al. data (Brain 2000;123:2407-2422)

Characteristic	Cited in Neurology editorial	Actual ADEM and MDEM data	Actual ADEM data only
Study style	Retrospective (1985–1999)	Retrospective (1985–1999)	Retrospective (1985–1999)
Follow-up method	Telephone interview (questionnaire)	Telephone interview (questionnaire)	Telephone interview (questionnaire)
Follow-up period, mo	28-68	12–185	12–185
Population	Pediatric	Pediatric	Pediatric
No. of patients	28	35	28
Age, y, range	3-15	3-15	3-15
Sex, F/M	16/19	16/19	13/15
Definition of ADEM	Monophasic demyelination of	Monophasic demyelination of	Monophasic demyelination of
	- v	1 V	· ·
	inflammatory disease at multiple	inflammatory disease at multiple	inflammatory disease at multiple
	sites in CNS excluding unilateral	sites in CNS excluding isolated ON,	sites in CNS excluding isolated ON,
	ON, isolated transverse myelitis	isolated transverse myelitis	isolated transverse myelitis
Preceding infections, %	74	74	79
Preceding vaccination	2 (mumps-rubella, BCG)	2 (mumps-rubella, BCG)	1 (mumps–rubella)
Seasonal clustering	Yes	Yes	Yes
Disease evolution, d	0-31	0-31	0-31
Clinical symptom at onset, %	0.91	0.01	0.01
Headache	58	58	61
Fever	43	43	43
Meningism	31	31	32
Disturbed consciousness	69	69	75
ON	29	23	18
	51	25 51	54
Cranial nerve abnormalities			
Pyramidal motor signs	71	71	75
Sensory deficits	17	17	21
Ataxia	49	49	57
Brainstem	Not given	Not given	Not given
Spinal	23	23	25
Aphasia	0	Not given	Not given
Seizure	0	17	21
Extrapyramidal	2	6	7
CSF, %		24	
Pleocytosis	64	64	57
Intrathecal oligoclonal bands	29	29	32
MRI features			
No. of patients	19 (including MDEM)	32 (including MDEM)	25 (ADEM only)
Lesion site, %			00
White matter	91	91	92
Periventricular	44	44	40
Cortical grey matter		12	12
Subcortical	91	91	96
Thalamic	41	41	40
Basal ganglia	28	28	32
Brainstem	56	56	52
Spinal cord	28	28	32
Corpus callosum	Not given	Not given	Not given
Gadolinium enhancement, %	Not given	Not given	Not given
Follow-up MRI	n = 9; 37% normal; 53% partial lesion	n = 19; 37% normal; 53% partial	n = 16; 31% normal; 63% partial
-	resolution; 10% unchanged; no new	lesion resolution; 10% unchanged;	lesion resolution; 6% unchanged; no
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		new lesions (2 mo-9 y)

ADEM = acute disseminating encephalomyelitis; BCG = bacille calmette–Guerin; MDEM = multiphasic disseminated encephalomyelitis; ON = optic neuritis.



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