

Correction

CSF tau protein phosphorylated at threonine 231 correlates with cognitive decline in MCI subjects

In the study “CSF tau protein phosphorylated at threonine 231 correlates with cognitive decline in MCI subjects” (*Neurology* 2002;59:627–629) by Buerger et al., the authors report a significant correlation between CSF p-tau₂₃₁ levels at baseline and rate of annual point loss in MMSE score in the MCI group, both in the single effect analysis (Spearman’s rho = -0.30 , $p < 0.01$) and after controlling for covariates in the multiple regression model (beta = -0.23 ; $p = 0.049$). Because of an error in the data layout, the duration of the observation period was erroneous for one subject. When this error was corrected, the correlation between p-tau and point loss in MMSE score remained unchanged. However, the result pattern of the multiple regression model was partially changed: Older age at baseline (beta = -0.33 ; $p < 0.01$) and APOE $\epsilon 4$ carrier status (beta = -0.40 ; $p < 0.01$) still were significant predictors of cognitive decline. P-tau₂₃₁ remained in the model, but the beta weight was slightly reduced (beta = -0.23 before and -0.22 after correction) and the effect showed a tendency toward statistical significance ($p = 0.06$, instead of $p = 0.049$ as previously published). The basic result of the study, however, remains unchanged, i.e., CSF p-tau₂₃₁ levels at baseline correlate with rate of annual point loss in MMSE score in the MCI group.

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