



## In Focus

### Spotlight on the May 10 Issue

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Editor-in-Chief, *Neurology*®

#### Biology of gait control: Vitamin D involvement 🦘

The authors evaluated the association between serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D (25OHD) and gait control assessed by stride-to-stride variability of stride time (STV) in a sample of 411 community-dwelling older adults. They showed that 25OHD deficiency was associated with high STV, reflecting a disturbed gait control.

See p. 1617

From editorialist Joseph H. Friedman: "To deconstruct the issue even more, perhaps gait should be considered more generally as a proxy for frailty. If higher vitamin D serum levels are protective against frailty, perhaps there is a role for vitamin D supplementation."

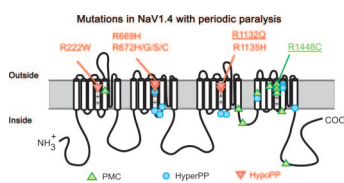
See p. 1612

#### Behavioral therapy to treat urinary incontinence in Parkinson disease 🏔️

The authors assessed the feasibility and efficacy of exercise-based behavioral therapy to treat urinary incontinence in 20 older adults with Parkinson disease (PD). They demonstrated that an exercise-based, biofeedback-assisted behavioral intervention in older PD participants reduced frequency of urinary incontinence and improved quality of life.

See p. 1631

#### Leaky sodium channels from voltage sensor mutations in periodic paralysis, but not paramyotonia 📺 🦘 📖



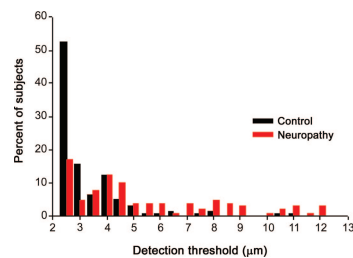
The functional properties of mutant Na<sub>v</sub>1.4 channels were studied with voltage-clamp techniques in an oocyte expression system. Data from the genetic

screening and functional studies of mutant channels implicated a common mechanism for the episodes of weakness in hypokalemic periodic paralysis caused by Na and Ca channel mutations.

See p. 1635; Editorial, p. 1614

NB: "Historical Neurology: Did General Douglas MacArthur have Parkinson disease? A video and archival analysis" (p. 1668). To check out other Historical papers, point your browser to <http://www.neurology.org>. The Green Journal is celebrating a historical milestone—60 years of publishing.

#### A new device to quantify tactile sensation in neuropathy



The authors screened 166 healthy controls and 103 patients with, or at risk for, peripheral neuropathy using a newly developed device, the Bumps. These preliminary studies suggest that the Bumps test is a rapid, sensitive, inexpensive method that may facilitate early diagnosis and quantify tactile deficiency in subjects suspected of having neuropathy.

See p. 1642

#### CSF opening pressure in children with optic nerve head edema

This study obtained 41 opening pressure measurements from 33 patients with optic nerve head edema (ONHE) and from 41 control subjects. The majority of children with ONHE not due to infectious, inflammatory, or ischemic conditions have an opening pressure greater than 28 cm H<sub>2</sub>O.

See p. 1658

#### Population-based study of wake-up strokes

The authors identified 1,854 ischemic strokes, of which 273 (14.3%) were wake-up strokes. Wake-up strokes constitute a significant percentage of ischemic strokes and are ineligible for thrombolytic therapy. Efforts are ongoing to develop better methods of identifying those patients likely to benefit from treatment and minimize exposure to undue risk.

See p. 1662

#### VIDEO NEUROIMAGES

##### Dominant vertebral artery occlusion during ipsilateral head tilt

Nystagmus should be observed not only during horizontal head rotation, but also during head tilt when rotational vertebral artery occlusion syndrome is suspected.

See p. 1679

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