



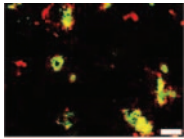
In Focus

Spotlight on the January 3 Issue

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Association of innate immune activation with latent Epstein-Barr virus in active MS lesions



Postmortem white matter from multiple sclerosis (MS) and control tissue was analyzed for the expression of the proinflammatory cytokine interferon α by immunohistochemistry and for Epstein-

Barr virus (EBV). Detection of EBV by in situ hybridization was the method of choice, but optimal tissue treatment is important to enhance specificity and probe entry into the nucleus, where abundant EBV-encoded RNA transcripts are located.

See p. 15

From editorialist Jan D. Lünemann: "... the authors conclude that active EBV infection is not a characteristic feature of inflammatory MS lesions based on the rare detection of viral lytic protein expression."

See p. 11

Theta-burst stimulation of the left hemisphere accelerates recovery of hemispatial neglect

This study investigated safety and efficacy of continuous transcranial magnetic theta-burst stimulation in 10 sessions over 2 weeks applied over the intact left posterior parietal cortex in subacute ischemic stroke patients. Repetitive stimulation speeded recovery from hemispatial neglect when used during the first months after ischemic stroke.

See p. 24; Editorial, p. 13

Effect of rebleeding on the course and incidence of vasospasm after subarachnoid hemorrhage

This study was performed on 120 patients with rebleeding and 359 controls matched for modified Fisher scale, Hunt Hess grade, age, and sex. Rebleeding after subarachnoid hemorrhage was associated with multiple medical and neurologic complications resulting in higher morbidity and mortality, but was not associated with change of incidence or timing of delayed cerebral ischemia.

See p. 31

Cerebrospinal fluid markers for differential dementia diagnosis in a large memory clinic cohort

Baseline CSF was collected from 512 patients with Alzheimer disease (AD) and 272 patients with other types of dementia, 135 patients with a psychiatric disorder, and 275 patients with subjective memory complaints. CSF A β 42, t-tau, and p-tau differentiated well between patients with AD and those with no dementia, but there was considerable overlap with non-AD dementias.

See p. 47

Cerebrospinal fluid amyloid β and tau in LRRK2 mutation carriers

Cerebrospinal fluid A β 42, total and phosphorylated tau were measured with Luminex assays in 26 LRRK2 mutation carriers who were either asymptomatic or had a phenotype resembling sporadic Parkinson disease (PD). A better understanding of A β and tau production, aggregation and degradation may provide insights into the pathogenesis of PD and the potential utility of these proteins as biomarkers.

See p. 55

Comparative efficacy of combination drug therapy in refractory epilepsy

In a study of the treatment of patients with refractory epilepsy over a 30-year period, only the combination of the antiepileptic drugs lamotrigine and valproate possessed superior efficacy against convulsive seizures. The unique efficacy of this combination may stem from a synergistic interaction between the 2 drugs.

See p. 62

NB: Media and Book Reviews "Introduction: Taking the digital plunge" p. e141 and "Medications: How can we know them all?" p. e143, published online in the December 13, 2011, issue. To check out other Resident & Fellow submissions, point your browser to www.neurology.org and click on the link to the Resident & Fellow Section.

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