



In Focus

Spotlight on the September 9 Issue

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Randomized controlled trial of the CGRP receptor antagonist telcagepant for migraine prevention ▲

Patients experiencing 3-14 migraine days during a 4-week baseline were randomized to telcagepant 140 mg, telcagepant 280 mg, or placebo twice daily for 12 weeks. This trial was terminated early due to hepatotoxicity concerns, but available data suggest a possible migraine prophylactic effect. CGRP receptor antagonism may represent a new treatment strategy for migraine prophylaxis.

See p. 958; Editorial, p. 954

Poor sleep quality is associated with increased cortical atrophy in community-dwelling adults

The authors found that longitudinal measures of atrophy derived from MRI scans were correlated with sleep quality in 143 adults. Poor sleep quality may be a cause or consequence of atrophy. The effect of interventions that improve sleep quality on rates of atrophy is a key area for future research and has important implications for public health messages.

See p. 967

Examination of effects of corticosteroids on skeletal muscles of boys with DMD using MRI and MRS

Transverse relaxation time and fat fraction were measured by MRI/magnetic resonance spectroscopy (MRS) in lower extremity muscles of 15 boys with Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) taking corticosteroids and 15 corticosteroid-naïve boys. These results demonstrate the ability of MRI/MRS to detect therapeutic effects of corticosteroids in reducing inflammatory processes in skeletal muscles of boys with DMD.

See p. 974

From editorialist Kieren G. Hollingsworth: "Quantitative MRI does not have to be difficult, but an understanding of the difference between standard radiologic and quantitative protocols is critical."

See p. 956

Contribution of ATXN2 intermediary polyQ expansions in a spectrum of neurodegenerative disorders

The CAG repeat length in ATXN2 was assessed in French patients with related neurodegenerative disorders: amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), frontotemporal dementia (FTD), and progressive supranuclear palsy. ATXN2 intermediary repeat length was a strong risk factor for sporadic and familial ALS and may act as a modifier of the ALS/FTD phenotype in patients carrying the C9orf72 expansion.

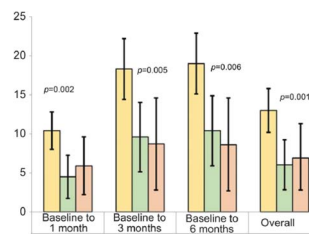
See p. 990

Aspirin for secondary prevention after stroke of unknown etiology in resource-limited settings

The authors used decision analysis to model the risks and benefits of giving aspirin to patients presenting with stroke of unknown etiology. Their model predicted that providing aspirin to these patients would lead to decreased stroke recurrence and mortality, even at the highest reported proportion of strokes due to intracerebral hemorrhage.

See p. 1004

Mirror Therapy in Unilateral Neglect After Stroke (MUST trial): A randomized controlled trial 📱 ▲



Hemineglect following stroke can be disabling. This trial explored the effectiveness of mirror therapy in the treatment of unilateral neglect in 48 acute stroke patients. It provides evidence that for patients with neglect from

thalamic and parietal lobe strokes, mirror therapy improves neglect.

See p. 1012

Genetic analysis of PHOX2B in sudden unexpected death in epilepsy cases 📖

PHOX2B gene variants cause congenital central hypoventilation syndrome and may contribute to sudden infant death syndrome. A possible role in sudden unexpected death in epilepsy (SUDEP) was explored by sequencing *PHOX2B* in 68 SUDEP cases, but no mutations were found. Some SUDEP risk is genetic, but *PHOX2B* variants do not contribute sufficiently.

See p. 1018

NB: "Seasonal variation in night blindness incidence among Union soldiers in the US Civil War," see p. 1025. To check out other Historical Neurology submissions, point your browser to Neurology.org.

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