



In Focus

Spotlight on the November 11 Issue

Robert A. Gross, MD, PhD, FAAN
Editor-in-Chief, *Neurology*[®]



CD49d antisense drug ATL1102 reduces disease activity in patients with relapsing-remitting MS [OPEN](#) [📖](#) [▲](#)

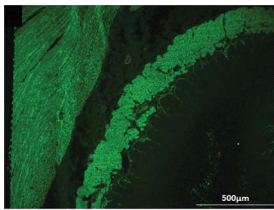
Seventy-seven patients with relapsing-remitting MS (RRMS) were treated with 200 mg of ATL1102 subcutaneously injected 3 times in the first week and twice weekly for 7 weeks or placebo and were monitored for a further 8 weeks. For patients with RRMS, the antisense oligonucleotide ATL1102 reduced the number of new active brain MRI lesions.

See p. 1780

From editorialists Naismith & Cross: "Antisense RNA-based therapies have potential to provide precise effects in MS and other neurologic and neurodegenerative disorders. In comparison to monoclonal antibodies, these therapies might provide improved means of delivery and safety."

See p. 1776

The neurologic significance of celiac disease biomarkers



The relationship between gliadin antibodies and neurologic disorders is controversial. Sixty-eight neurologic patients with positive celiac disease (CD) serologies were critically evaluated. Coexisting autoimmunity and nutritional

deficiency were common causes of neurologic disorders accompanying CD. However, the data did not support a gluten trigger for neurologic dysfunction in patients without CD.

See p. 1789

DPPX potassium channel antibody: Frequency, clinical accompaniments, and outcomes in 20 patients [📖](#) [📄](#)

DPPX is a regulatory subunit of Kv4.2 potassium channels, which have widespread nervous system expression. Examination of the Mayo Clinic Neuroimmunology Laboratory archives and prospective identification since 2013 revealed 20 patients with DPPX-IgG seropositivity. Patients had diverse and potentially reversible CNS and autonomic disorders occasionally accompanying B-lymphocyte neoplasia.

See p. 1797

Amyloid, neurodegeneration, and small vessel disease as predictors of dementia in the oldest-old

β -amyloid deposition, neurodegeneration, and small vessel disease are common in elderly people without dementia. Some individuals classified as biomarker "negative" will develop Alzheimer disease dementia, while others classified as biomarker "positive" with small vessel disease may remain cognitively normal. These findings suggest that events leading to clinical dementia may be more complex than previously thought.

See p. 1804

Narcolepsy and influenza A(H1N1) pandemic 2009 vaccination in the United States

Incident narcolepsy has been associated with an adjuvant pandemic influenza vaccine used in Europe; however, in vaccinated persons in the United States, the incidence of narcolepsy was not increased. Vaccination with the influenza A (H1N1)pdm09 vaccine viral antigens does not appear to increase the incidence of narcolepsy in a population.

See p. 1823

Cost of informal caregiving associated with stroke among the elderly in the United States

The authors found that stroke survivors used 8.5 more hours of weekly informal caregiving per person than their counterparts, with the annual economic burden amounting to \$4,356 per patient and \$14.2 billion in the United States. This high economic burden of informal caregiving for stroke survivors reinforces the importance of stroke prevention.

See p. 1831

Plasma lipids and cerebral small vessel disease

The authors examined the cross-sectional association between lipid fractions and 2 MRI markers of cerebral small vessel disease, white matter hyperintensity volume and lacunes, representing predictors of stroke and dementia. Increasing triglycerides, but not other lipid fractions, were associated with MRI markers of small vessel disease.

See p. 1844

NB: "Propriospinal myoclonus: Clinical reappraisal and review of literature," see p. 1862. To check out other Views & Reviews, point your browser to Neurology.org.

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