



In Focus

Spotlight on the July 29 Issue

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



Racial differences in disability after stroke: Results from a nationwide study

The authors performed a cross-sectional study of 806 self-reported stroke survivors from the 2011 National Health and Aging Trends Study. The authors found that after stroke, black individuals have a greater prevalence of activity limitations than white individuals due to their greater physical capacity limitations. Given the aging population and the persistence of racial disparities in stroke incidence, it is vital to determine when and how best to intervene to maximize poststroke capacity and eliminate racial disparities.

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From editorialists Roth & Dhamoon: "We must continue to research systematically the potential explanations, and educate our patients, family caregivers, and other health care providers about the confirmed at-risk subgroups so that more targeted and effective services can be provided."

See p. 384

Phase I/II randomized trial of aerobic exercise in Parkinson disease in a community setting

Independently ambulatory patients with Parkinson disease (PD) without dementia completed a 6-month moderate intensity aerobic overground walking program and experienced benefits in motor function, cognition, mood, fatigue, and quality of life. Considering there are no established exercise programs for patients with PD, the authors found that brisk walking in a community setting is safe and beneficial for patients with mild to moderate PD.

See p. 413

Neuropsychological changes in asymptomatic persons with Alzheimer disease neuropathology

Clinically normal individuals who came to autopsy with Alzheimer disease (AD) neuropathologic changes exhibited subtle evidence of declining cognitive trajectories for attention/working memory. Thus, attention/working memory is a potential priority for development of more in-depth neuropsychological tests to identify people in the later stages of the preclinical phase of AD.

See p. 434

Prospective randomized trial of venous angioplasty in MS (PREMiSe)

This pilot prospective, randomized, sham-controlled, double-blind study demonstrated that venous angioplasty provides no benefit and is potentially harmful for patients with MS with venous narrowing in the head and neck. Further studies are needed to understand fully whether the venous system participates in neurologic disease.

See p. 441; Editorial, p. 388

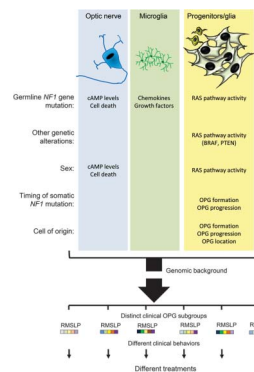
Predictors for readmissions after video-EEG monitoring

Prevention of 30-day readmissions is important for quality of care and cost reduction measures. This retrospective review identified common reasons and risk factors for 30-day readmissions in patients discharged from an epilepsy monitoring unit. Results suggest that addressing psychiatric comorbidities and nonepileptic seizures is important in preventing unnecessary readmissions.

See p. 450

VIEWS & REVIEWS

Eliminating barriers to personalized medicine: Learning from neurofibromatosis type 1



This review outlines the factors that separately influence brain tumor formation, clinical progression, and response to therapy. It discusses how this innate heterogeneity may be leveraged to improve risk assessment and treatment decisions.

See p. 463

NB: "A competency-based longitudinal core curriculum in medical neuroscience," see p. 456. To check out other Contemporary Issues: Innovations in Education articles, point your browser to Neurology.org.

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