



In Focus

Spotlight on the September 29 Issue

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



Notable in *Neurology*

This issue features an article investigating motor network efficiency and disability in multiple sclerosis and another on how type 2 diabetes may promote neurodegeneration independent of Alzheimer disease dementia diagnosis. Another featured article focuses on brain arterial remodeling and how it may be important in controlling cerebrovascular disease in the HIV-infected population.

Postmenopausal hormone therapy, type 2 diabetes mellitus, and brain volumes

Women aged 65–79 years who were assigned to receive 4–5 years of postmenopausal hormone therapy had lower total brain and gray matter volumes compared with controls; however, this effect was not seen in women without diabetes. These findings suggest that diabetes and hormone therapy may disrupt energy metabolism in the brain and increase atrophy in older women.

See p. 1131

ARTICLES

Mindfulness-based therapy for drug-resistant epilepsy: An assessor-blinded randomized trial

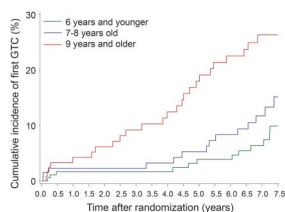
The authors investigated the effectiveness of mindfulness-based therapy and social support in 60 patients with drug-resistant epilepsy (30 per group). Each group received 4 biweekly intervention sessions. Mindfulness therapy was associated with greater benefits than social support alone in quality of life, mood, seizure frequency, and verbal memory.

See p. 1100

From editorialists Kanner & Meador: “The appeal of mindfulness-based therapy in the management of people with epilepsy appears to reside in helping patients understand and accept their seizure disorder and provide them with a set of lifestyle recommendations that may lead to better coping with stressful situations.”

See p. 1094

Long-term outcomes of generalized tonic-clonic seizures in a childhood absence epilepsy trial



Occurrence of generalized tonic-clonic seizures was determined in 446 children with childhood absence epilepsy who participated in a trial comparing ethosuximide, lamotrigine, and valproate as initial therapy.

Children initially treated with ethosuximide who are responders

had a particularly low risk of developing generalized tonic-clonic seizures, reinforcing the use of ethosuximide as first-line therapy for childhood absence epilepsy.

See p. 1108

Follow-up evaluation of oculomotor performance with fMRI in the subacute phase of concussion

A battery of oculomotor tests were administered along with simultaneous fMRI in 7 participants at 30 days postconcussion. Despite being clinically asymptomatic, advanced techniques detected subtle lingering alterations in the concussed brain, showing that both progressive neuroimaging techniques and assessment of oculomotor performance may be beneficial in clinical management of concussion.

See p. 1163

NB: “Hemorrhagic stroke following use of the synthetic marijuana ‘spice,’” p. 1177. To check out other Clinical/Scientific Notes, point your browser to Neurology.org. At the end of the issue, check out the NeuroImages discussing the role of constructive interference in steady state in diagnosing cystic lesion of the fourth ventricle and metastatic breast cancer in a man with nonprogressive ataxia and epilepsy. This week also includes a Visions article titled “Memory and Mechanism.”

Podcasts can be accessed at Neurology.org

Neurology[®]

Spotlight on the September 29 Issue

Robert A. Gross

Neurology 2015;85:1093

DOI 10.1212/WNL.0000000000001964

This information is current as of September 28, 2015

Updated Information & Services

including high resolution figures, can be found at:
<http://n.neurology.org/content/85/13/1093.full>

Permissions & Licensing

Information about reproducing this article in parts (figures, tables) or in its entirety can be found online at:
http://www.neurology.org/about/about_the_journal#permissions

Reprints

Information about ordering reprints can be found online:
<http://n.neurology.org/subscribers/advertise>

Neurology® is the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology. Published continuously since 1951, it is now a weekly with 48 issues per year. Copyright © 2015 American Academy of Neurology. All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.

