In Focus

Spotlight on the December 8 Issue

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Notable in *Neurology*

This issue features an article evaluating whether diffusion tensor imaging can predict epileptogenicity of tubers in patients with pediatric tuberous sclerosis complex undergoing epilepsy surgery and another investigating the clinical spectrum and distinguishing features of adenylate cyclase 5-related dyskinesia and genotype-phenotype relationship. A third article examines the association between enlarged perivascular spaces and small diffusion-weighted lesions in intracerebral hemorrhage.

ARTICLES

Tilt-induced vasovagal syncope and psychogenic pseudosyncope: Overlapping clinical entities

Vasovagal syncope and psychogenic pseudosyncope (PPS) may occur together. The authors examined this complex phenotype and compared its presenting features with those of isolated vasovagal syncope. High attack frequency, abnormal recovery, prolonged unconsciousness, eye closure, atypical triggers, and the absence of prodromes were identified as indicators that PPS coincides with vasovagal syncope.

See p. 2006

From editorialists Benbadis & Sutton: "Another important lesson is that tilt-table tests would offer enhanced diagnostic capability by being performed routinely with EEG monitoring. Ictal recording easily distinguishes organic syncope (of any cause) and PPS, due to a predictable and sensitive series of changes."

See p. 2000

Mitochondrial targeting sequence variants of the *CHCHD2* gene are a risk for Lewy body disorders

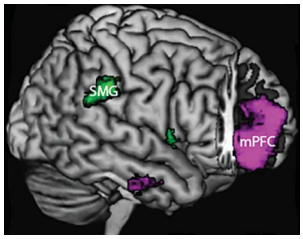
Understanding the genetic causes of Lewy body disease will provide another diagnostic tool in the neurologist's armamentarium. Whole-gene sequencing identified variants in the mitochondrial targeting sequence domain of *CHCHD2* that increased the risk of Parkinson disease (PD) and pathologically defined Lewy body disease. Clinical genetics will determine the future of precision medicine.

See p. 2016

From editorialists Wider & Mouradian: "After over a decade of genome-wide association studies of common variants, which have pointed to loci associated with disease, the field is moving toward identifying rare variants that will likely account for some of the missing heritability in PD."

See p. 2002

Disruption of posteromedial large-scale neural communication predicts recovery from coma OPEN



Patients who were comatose showed a considerable disruption of functional connectivity of brain areas synchronized with posterior cingulate cortex, regardless of etiology. The degree of perturbation of this network appears to have a prognostic value for recovery. Monitoring brain intrinsic networks may improve early prognostication and enable the development of innovative networks-based personalized treatments.

See p. 2036

CLINICAL/SCIENTIFIC NOTES

Deep brain stimulation of the dentate nucleus improves cerebellar ataxia after cerebellar stroke

The authors report a case of unilateral cerebellar infarction treated by deep brain stimulation to the unaffected dentate nucleus. The stimulation of dentate nucleus could modulate the dentate-rubro-thalamic tracts, leading to improvements in tremors and ataxia. This is a single observational study; however, it lays the groundwork for larger studies in this patient population.

See p. 2075

NB: "Orientation to person, orientation to self," see p. 2072. To check out other Historical Neurology articles, point your browser to Neurology.org. At the end of the issue, check out the AAN Special Article discussing idiopathic normal pressure hydrocephalus. This week also includes a Humanities story titled: "The Theory of Everything: The extraordinary and the ordinary."

Podcasts can be accessed at Neurology.org

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