



# In Focus

## Spotlight on the November 1 Issue

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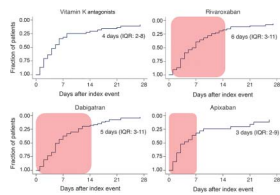


### Notable in *Neurology*

This issue features an article that identifies predictors of early lobar intracerebral hemorrhage recurrence in patients with cerebral amyloid angiopathy and another that assesses whether multifocal, high-frequency repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation of the motor and prefrontal cortex improves motor and mood symptoms in patients with Parkinson disease. A featured article investigates the effects of prenatal exposure to monotherapy levetiracetam, topiramate, and valproate on childhood cognitive functioning.

### ARTICLES

#### Early start of DOAC after ischemic stroke: Risk of intracranial hemorrhage and recurrent events



In patients with recent acute ischemic stroke and atrial fibrillation, the authors assessed the starting time of direct, non-vitamin K antagonist oral anticoagulants (DOACs) for secondary prevention.

Early initiation of DOAC after stroke or TIA was associated with an apparent reduction in risk of intracranial hemorrhage (ICH); however, the risk of stroke or TIA was 6 times higher than the rate of ICH.

See p. 1856

From editorialist Brett Cucchiara: "With the introduction of the direct oral anticoagulants, the question is only more acute. While the study of Seiffge et al. provides important data, only a randomized trial of early vs late oral anticoagulant would definitively settle the issue. I hope the neurology residents I now teach will one day discard their own books of received wisdom once such trials have been performed."

See p. 1852

#### Trial of early noninvasive ventilation for ALS: A pilot placebo-controlled study ▲

This pilot trial evaluated the use and tolerability of noninvasive positive pressure ventilation in patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) early in their disease by comparing active noninvasive ventilation and sham noninvasive ventilation. For patients with ALS, adherence with noninvasive ventilation and sham noninvasive ventilation were similar. Further efficacy trials are needed.

See p. 1878

#### Cluster headache and depression 📖

In this validated questionnaire study in 462 well-defined cluster headache patients and 177 controls, cluster headache was diagnosed according to the International Classification of Headache Disorders. Cluster headache was associated with 3 times increased odds of lifetime depression; current depression was highly prevalent in patients with active disease, related to sleep disturbances due to current nocturnal attacks.

See p. 1899

#### Female advantage in verbal memory: Evidence of sex-specific cognitive reserve

The authors investigated sex differences in verbal memory in 672 participants with amnesic mild cognitive impairment (aMCI), 254 participants with Alzheimer disease (AD) dementia, and 390 controls. Women showed better verbal memory than men in aMCI despite similar levels of brain hypometabolism. This issue is important because verbal memory scores are used in diagnosing aMCI and AD dementia.

See p. 1916

NB: "Pediatric stroke and cerebrovascular disorders," see p. e219. To check out other Resident & Fellow Emerging Subspecialties in Neurology submissions, point your browser to [Neurology.org](http://Neurology.org) and click on the link to the Resident & Fellow Section. At the end of the issue, check out the *NeuroImages* discussing brain magnetic resonance susceptibility-weighted imaging detecting microbleeds in the mammillary bodies as hallmark of Wernicke encephalopathy and strabismus from supernumerary extraocular muscle restriction. This week also includes a Clinical/Scientific Note titled "HLA-DRB1 alleles in immune-mediated necrotizing myopathy."

Podcasts can be accessed at [Neurology.org](http://Neurology.org)

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