In Focus

Spotlight on the April 4 issue

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

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NEUROLOGY®

Notable in *Neurology*

This issue features an article that reports unilateral cerebellothalamic tract ablation in essential tremor by MRI-guided focused ultrasound, and another that advocates the Narcolepsy Severity Scale as a reliable and valid clinical tool. A featured Contemporary Issues: Innovations in Education article examines a scholarly research program as part of an adult and pediatric neurology residency program.

ARTICLES

Reduction in time to treatment in prehospital telemedicine evaluation and thrombolysis

Mobile stroke treatment units (MSTUs) represent a new frontier in stroke care with the ability to deliver prehospital thrombolysis. The authors' MSTU, with physician presence via telemedicine, demonstrated substantial reductions in time to thrombolytic treatment compared to emergency department care. Delivering care utilizing telemedicine on MSTUs is feasible and effective.

See p. 1305

From editorialists Southerland & Brandler: "Hope remains that future trials may demonstrate the ultimate potential of mobile stroke units to improve long-term outcomes for more patients, by treating them more quickly and more effectively."

See p. 1300

Safety and efficacy of incobotulinumtoxinA doses up to 800 U in limb spasticity: The TOWER study OPEN

This prospective study illustrates the safety (primary endpoint) and efficacy of high-dose botulinum neurotoxin A in upper and lower limb spasticity. Eighty-nine percent of patients received a total-body dose of 800 U as anticipated, allowing treatment of more muscles and clinical patterns per session, which reduces overall disability without overdosing single muscles.

See p. 1321

Increased brain-predicted aging in treated HIV disease OPEN

Increased brain aging may explain continued cognitive impairment in well-treated HIV. Neuroimaging research used machine-learning analysis to predict brain age in HIV-positive individuals and in a control group, based on a large database of independent healthy persons. The analysis suggests that increased brain aging in HIV is static, with no evidence for progressively accelerating brain aging.

See p. 1349

The autism "epidemic": Ethical, legal, and social issues in a developmental spectrum disorder

The evolving phenotypic dimensions of the autism spectrum blur its diagnostic boundaries. This review considers methodologic, cultural, social, and legal factors in the autism diagnosis as well as ethical issues in its evaluation and treatment. The current domain of these behaviorally defined neurodevelopmental disorders encompasses biological heterogeneity, neurodiversity, and social justice.

See p. 1371

From editorialists Jeste & Schor: "As clinicians, we have a responsibility to be rigorous in our diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder and to find effective means to communicate scientific discoveries with patients in a way that will empower them to make informed decisions about care with a balance of pragmatism and hope."

See p. 1303

NB: "A physical sign of stroke sequel on the skeleton of Leonardo da Vinci?" p. 1381. To check out other NeuroImages, point your browser to Neurology.org. At the end of the issue, check out the Resident & Fellow Clinical Reasoning article discussing a case of progressive headache and pancytopenia, and another on a case of corpus callosum lesions. This week also includes a Resident & Fellow Teaching NeuroImage titled "HIV-associated cerebral vasculopathy with multiple nodular aneurysms."

Podcasts can be accessed at Neurology.org

Spotlight on the April 4 issue

Robert A. Gross

Neurology 2017;88;1299
DOI 10.1212/WNL.0000000000003834