



From the Editor

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Recently in Without Borders, we highlighted the *Neurology*[®] article by Ali Thaver and Arsalan Ahmad titled “Economic perspective on dementia care in Pakistan.” As noted in our blog, “Amidst the global, explosive increase in the burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in the past decade, the social and economic impact of the deluge of persons living with dementia really can’t be overstated.” Thaver and Ahmad outline the problem: “Pakistan is the sixth most populated country and has an estimated 150,000–200,000 patients with dementia... In the absence of a geriatric medicine subspecialty in Pakistan, dementia care falls under neurology and psychiatry’s domain. Elder care is usually assumed by family members and the concept of transitioning loved ones into nursing homes is not common. This works well for patients who live in familiar surroundings with people who know them best; however, there is a high opportunity cost (in terms of time lost) for economically productive individuals who take care of these patients or direct costs if they have to pay for their care.”¹ In their article, you will read about the approaches being considered to address these concerns.

Readers with an interest in tropical medicine will enjoy our blog, which provides a list of 6 recommended titles on the subject and some background on what to expect from each one. The list includes a few articles that illustrate the value of neuroimaging for patients with malaria: “For those who are not particularly familiar with the recent advances that neuroimaging have facilitated in our understanding of the pathophysiology of cerebral malaria, an editorial by Hoffman and Wassmer² lay the groundwork as they discuss the role of increased intracranial pressure in cerebral malaria deaths and the identification of reversible cerebral vasoconstriction syndrome in cerebral malaria in a 21-year-old man returning from a holiday in Kenya.”³

References

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3. Yamamoto K, Kato Y, Shinohara K, et al. Case report: reversible cerebral vasoconstriction syndrome in cerebral malaria. *Am J Trop Med Hyg* 2018;98:505–507.



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