

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



Notable in *Neurology* this week

This issue features an article that investigates the use of high-resolution magnetic resonance neurography to detect and quantify peripheral nerve involvement and muscle degeneration in spinal muscular atrophy; another determines that quality of life after stroke is not influenced by earlier or more frequent mobilization. A featured Medical Hypothesis paper examines whether myoclonus in patients with multiple system atrophy—with predominant cerebellar ataxia—is associated with a heavier burden of α -synuclein deposition in the motor regions of the spinal cord.

Articles

Comparative effectiveness of teriflunomide vs dimethyl fumarate in multiple sclerosis

The authors compared teriflunomide (TRF) and dimethyl-fumarate (DMF) on a large number of patients using MRI and tolerance data. Both treatments are equivalent on the risk of relapse and disability progression, but with a better tolerance for TRF and a better efficacy for DMF on MRI measures. There is little difference between the 2 treatments in terms of efficacy at 1 and 2 years.

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From editorialists Hersh & Marrie: "The study also illustrates some important methodological practices for future studies of this nature, as well as the challenges inherent in using real-world data."

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Effect of polygenic load on striatal dopaminergic deterioration in Parkinson disease

The effect of genetic variability on the progression of Parkinson disease (PD) is still unclear. The authors identified that polygenic load of common PD-risk variants was associated with a slower deterioration of striatal dopaminergic dysfunction in patients with PD. Measures of polygenic variation may be useful for predicting progression of PD.

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Impulse control disorders in Parkinson disease and RBD: A longitudinal study of severity

Impulse control behaviors (ICB) are a common and potentially devastating effect of dopaminergic treatment in Parkinson disease. This longitudinal study used a novel severity scale to delineate the broad spectrum of ICB severity. The severity of ICB fluctuates and can be influenced by both biological and non-pharmacologic factors.

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MORE ONLINE

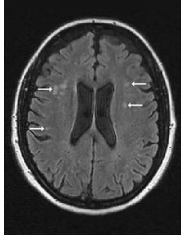
🎧 Editor's Summary

Audio summary of highlighted articles.

[NPub.org/edsum](https://www.neurology.org/edsum)

Continued

Microstructural white matter changes preceding white matter hyperintensities in migraine



The pathophysiology behind white matter hyperintensities in migraineurs is unclear, but seems attack-unrelated. In this MRI study, with magnetization transfer imaging, focal otherwise-invisible tissue integrity changes were detected at baseline at sites where visible lesions had developed during a 9-year follow-up. This suggests an underlying gradual or chronic migraine-related systemic process.

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NB: “Teaching NeuroImages: Unilateral focal segmental hyperhidrosis from spinal tumor progression,” p. e729. To check out other Resident & Fellow Teaching NeuroImages, point your browser to Neurology.org/N and click on the link to the Resident & Fellow Section. At the end of the issue, check out the NeuroImage illustrating tubular aggregates in a quadriceps muscle biopsy of a man with high creatine kinase. This week also includes a Clinical/Scientific Note titled “Saposin B deficiency as a cause of adult-onset metachromatic leukodystrophy.”

NEW EPISODE



August 13, 2019

🎧 CME Opportunity:

Listen to this week’s *Neurology* Podcast and earn 0.5 AMA PRA Category 1 CME Credits™ by answering the multiple-choice questions in the online Podcast quiz.

Impulse control disorders in Parkinson disease and RBD: A longitudinal study of severity (see p. 294)

1. Impulse control disorders in Parkinson disease and RBD: A longitudinal study of severity
2. What’s Trending: CRISPR babies: when will the world be ready?

In the first segment, Dr. Jason Crowell talks with Dr. Michele Hu and Dr. David Okai about their longitudinal study of the severity of impulse control disorders in Parkinson disease and RBD. In the second part of the podcast, Dr. Jason Crowell focuses his discussion with Dr. Heidi Ledford on her *Nature* article discussing CRISPR babies and what would be required to make gene editing safe and acceptable. Read the full article here: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-01906-z>.

Disclosures can be found at Neurology.org.

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Spotlight on the August 13 issue

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