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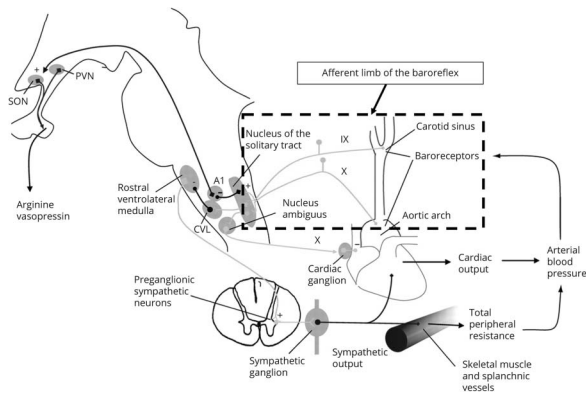


Notable in *Neurology* This Week

This issue features a Research Article that investigates arousal mechanisms in patients with severe traumatic brain injury; another examines the association between pathologic variants in the *CHRNA3* gene and familial autonomic ganglionopathy with diffuse autonomic failure. An American Academy of Neurology Position Statement outlines ethical considerations in the diagnosis and care of people with dementia.

Research Articles

Natural History of Afferent Baroreflex Failure in Adults



This retrospective study reviewed clinical and laboratory data in patients diagnosed with afferent baroreflex failure (ABF). Neck radiation and surgeries were the most common etiologies, and all-cause mortality over a 20-year period was 39.4%. The authors concluded that ABF should be suspected in patients with history of neck cancer who present with labile hypertension and orthostatic hypotension.

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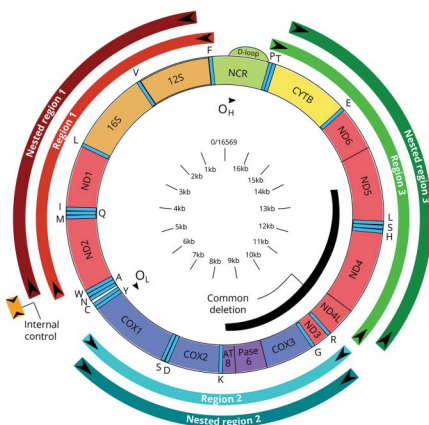
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Large Mitochondrial DNA Deletions in HIV Sensory Neuropathy



The authors of this study examined the skin biopsy of 67 people with HIV and found an association between the extent of mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) deletions and the presence of sensory neuropathy. This correlation suggests but does not prove that mtDNA deletions may play a role in the pathogenesis of peripheral neuropathies and that strategies to improve the mtDNA repair process may have therapeutic implications.

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Effect of Patent Foramen Ovale Closure After Stroke on Circulatory Biomarkers

To understand how patent foramen ovale (PFO) closure influences circulatory biomarkers, the authors sampled cardiac atrial and venous blood of patients before and after PFO closure. Homocysteine was the most significantly decreased factor in intracardiac plasma after complete

Continued

PFO closure; it was reduced immediately and led to long-term reduction in peripheral blood. The results suggested that homocysteine could act as a biomarker to monitor residual shunting after closure.

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From editorialist O'Suilleabhain: "A greater value of this important report is in opening a new area of research into the role of pulmonary homeostasis into the nexus of PFO and stroke, and potentially migraine and dementia."

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NB: "Teaching Video NeuroImages: When the Shoulder Inspires: A Case of Breathing Arm," p. e224. To check out other Resident & Fellow Section Teaching Video NeuroImages, point your browser to [Neurology.org/N](https://www.neurology.org/N) and click on the link to the Resident & Fellow Section. At the end of the issue, check out the Resident & Fellow Section Clinical Reasoning article discussing the diagnosis and treatment of a patient with listeria rhombencephalitis and another on neurolymphomatosis. This week also includes a Humanities in Neurology article titled "GCA Squared."

NEW EPISODE



July 13, 2021

Natural History of Afferent Baroreflex Failure in Adults (see p. 61)

In the first segment, Dr. Alex Menze talks with Dr. Clifford Saper about Havana Syndrome and recent attacks on American diplomats. In the second part of the podcast, Dr. Jeff Ratliff discusses the natural history of afferent baroreflex failure with Dr. Guillaume Lamotte.

Disclosures can be found at [Neurology.org](https://www.neurology.org).

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Spotlight on the July 13 Issue

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