In Focus

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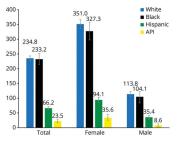


Notable in *Neurology* This Week

This issue features an article that compares how breast and colorectal cancer are identified and the cancer stage at diagnosis in patients with cancer with and without coexisting multiple sclerosis; another determines the economic burden of multiple sclerosis in the United States. A featured Research Article examines the association between carotid intima-media thickness and midlife cognitive function, accounting for racial and social disparities.

Research Articles

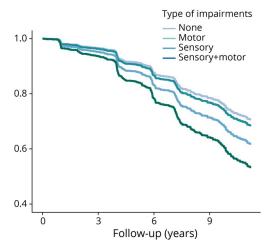
Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Multiple Sclerosis Prevalence



This study found that multiple sclerosis (MS) prevalence was similar across all age groups in White and Black persons residing in Southern California in 2010. The findings indicate that the burden of MS in the Black community has been underrecognized. Implicit racial bias may have contributed to the erroneous and harmful assumption that Black people rarely get MS. Page 747

From editorialists Hamilton and Ciccarelli: "The finding of a similar MS prevalence in older Black and White persons represents solid evidence against the notion that MS is an emerging disease in Black persons..." Page 739

Associations of Lower Extremity Peripheral Nerve Impairment and Risk of Dementia in Black and White Older Adults



Among 2,000 participants without dementia at baseline, having peripheral nerve impairment, particularly monofilament or vibration insensitivity, was associated with higher risk of dementia after adjusting for age and other health factors.

Page 749

From editorialists Shuman Paretsky and Roman: "Peripheral impairments may help identify individuals who are in the early stages of cognitive decline before dementia begins or progresses."

Page 741



Identification and Characterization of Pure Sleep Epilepsy in a Cohort of Patients With a First Seizure

In this prospective study of 239 adults with a first-ever unprovoked seizure from sleep, 89 (37%) developed awake seizures. The annual risk for developing an awake seizure was \leq 14% and decreased with time but remained between 2% and 5% per year. Page 751

Electroclinical Features and Long-term Seizure Outcome in Patients With Eyelid Myoclonia With Absences

Eyelid myoclonia with absences is an uncommon epilepsy syndrome. This multicenter cohort study of 172 patients investigated prognostic factors predicting sustained remission. Cluster analysis revealed 2 distinct clusters characterized by distinct clinical features with different long-term outcome. The findings may have implications for patient treatment. Page 752

NB: "Recurrent Multi-territorial Acute Ischemic Stroke due to Cardiac Angiosarcoma," p. 765. To check out other NeuroImages, point your browser to Neurology.org/N. At the end of the issue, check out the Resident & Fellow Section Clinical Reasoning article discussing dysarthria and horizontal diplopia in a patient with myokymia. This week also includes a Resident & Fellow Section Teaching NeuroImage titled "Reversible Symmetric Basal Ganglia Lesions in a Patient With Diabetes Undergoing Dialysis."

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