



In Focus

Spotlight on the September 18 Issue

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



Neighborhood income and stroke care and outcomes

This study analyzed data from more than 7,000 patients with stroke or TIA and found that 1-year survival rates were lower in those from poorer neighborhoods compared to wealthy ones. Patients from low-income areas are at increased risk of death following stroke and may require more intensive follow-up and risk factor modification to decrease this risk.

See p. 1200; Editorial, p. 1190

Silent ischemic lesions in young adults with first stroke are associated with recurrent stroke

In 170 young adult patients with first-ever ischemic stroke undergoing brain MRI, almost one-third had silent ischemic lesions, with a 3-fold greater risk of recurrent stroke. Brain MRI may help identify high-risk patients and may help institute aggressive secondary prevention for those who most need it. A second paper determined age-specific prevalence or severity of leukoaraiosis in cohorts of TIA/stroke and systematic review of the literature.

See p. 1208; see also p. 1215

Chocolate consumption and risk of stroke: A prospective cohort of men and meta-analysis

One hundred three men who had completed a food frequency questionnaire were followed for 10.2 years; those with higher consumption of chocolate had a 17% lower risk of developing stroke. These results indicate that chocolate consumption may lower the risk of stroke.

See p. 1223

Peritrigonal and temporo-occipital heterotopia with corpus callosum and cerebellar dysgenesis

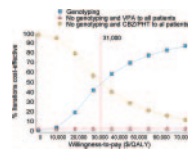
This study reports brain MRI and clinical findings of 50 patients with periventricular heterotopia (PH) in the temporo-occipital horns and trigones. Cerebellar dysgenesis was associated in 84% and a hypoplastic corpus callosum in 60%. Distribution of PH and associated abnormalities help to define syndrome subtypes and guide genetic testing in PH.

See p. 1244

From editorialists Pandolfo, Depondt, & Huppke: "... jury remains out as to whether this syndrome represents a genetically homogeneous disorder, along the lines of FLNA-related PNH, or rather a heterogeneous entity."

See p. 1192

Cost-effectiveness of HLA-B*1502 genotyping in adult patients with newly diagnosed epilepsy in Singapore



This cost-effectiveness model includes costs of epilepsy treatments and genotyping, reductions in quality of life, increased costs resulting from Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) and toxic

epidermal necrolysis (TEN), prevalence of risk allele, positive predictive value of genotyping, and life expectancy.

Genotyping was cost-effective in countries with high HLA-B*1502 frequency and incidence of CBZ/PHT-induced SJS/TEN.

See p. 1259

Myelin-oligodendrocyte glycoprotein antibodies in adults with a neuromyelitis optica phenotype

Twenty-seven adult patients with aquaporin-4 seronegative neuromyelitis optica and neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorder were tested for myelin-oligodendrocyte glycoprotein antibodies. Four patients with severe optic neuritis and longitudinally extensive transverse myelitis were positive but recovered with steroids and plasma exchange. Two patients experienced recurrence of symptoms when corticosteroids were withdrawn quickly.

See p. 1273, Editorial, p. 1198

Ginkgo biloba does not improve cognitive function in MS: A randomized placebo-controlled trial

Patients with multiple sclerosis were randomized to receive either one 120-mg tablet of Ginkgo or one placebo tablet twice a day for 12 weeks. The authors compared the 2 groups' performance at exit after adjusting for baseline performance. Treatment with Ginkgo 120 mg twice a day for 12 weeks did not improve cognitive performance.

See p. 1278

NB: "Brain disorders where resources are scarce: The unfinished agenda," see p. 1285. To check out other Global Perspectives, point your browser to www.neurology.org.

Podcasts can be accessed at www.neurology.org

Neurology[®]

Spotlight on the September 18 Issue

Robert A. Gross

Neurology 2012;79;1189

DOI 10.1212/WNL.0b013e31826b98c5

This information is current as of September 17, 2012

Updated Information & Services

including high resolution figures, can be found at:
<http://n.neurology.org/content/79/12/1189.full>

Permissions & Licensing

Information about reproducing this article in parts (figures, tables) or in its entirety can be found online at:
http://www.neurology.org/about/about_the_journal#permissions

Reprints

Information about ordering reprints can be found online:
<http://n.neurology.org/subscribers/advertise>

Neurology® is the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology. Published continuously since 1951, it is now a weekly with 48 issues per year. Copyright Copyright © 2012 by AAN Enterprises, Inc.. All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.

