## In Focus

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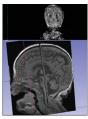


### Notable in Neurology this week

This issue features an article that finds that generalized slowing on routine clinical EEG strongly correlates with delirium and may be a biomarker for delirium severity; another investigates whether serum levels of glial fibrillary acidic protein and neurofilament light chain are clinically useful biomarkers of disease activity and disability in neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorders. A featured Special Article provides a practice guideline update on vaccine-preventable infections and immunization in multiple sclerosis.

### **Articles**

# Predicting developmental outcomes in preterm infants: A simple white matter injury imaging rule



White matter injury (WMI) is the characteristic brain injury in preterm neonates. Using a standardized viewing plane, lesion location anterior to the mid-ventricle line is predictive of adverse outcomes, providing a valuable tool for neurologists to evaluate WMI. A simple imaging rule on early MRI is useful for counseling families.

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From editorialists Juhász & Shevell: "The results of the study of Cayam-Rand et al. deliver a simple, practical, and robust imaging predictor that can be readily implemented in routine practice to obtain a fast, reliable initial estimation of the risk for long-term neurocognitive complications in preterm infants."

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### Developmental MRI markers cosegregate juvenile patients with myoclonic epilepsy and their healthy siblings

Patients with juvenile myoclonic epilepsy (JME) and their siblings have similar brain structural anomalies. Compared to controls, they show increased frontal cortical folding complexity. In these regions, abnormal geodesic distance suggests decreased network efficiency. In JME, structural MRI markers of brain development and connectivity are likely heritable.

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# Early molecular oxidative stress biomarkers of ischemic penumbra in acute stroke

In this study, molecular correlates of perfusion—diffusion mismatch—a surrogate marker of ischemic penumbra—were identified. Elevated hyperacute plasma levels of oxidative stress markers were independently associated with mismatch and mismatch salvage. This is a step toward identifying novel therapeutic targets and biomarkers of salvageable brain tissue.

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### Vamorolone trial in Duchenne muscular dystrophy shows doserelated improvement of muscle function

An effective, yet safer, corticosteroid has long been sought for treatment of chronic inflammatory states. Vamorolone was tested in boys with Duchenne muscular dystrophy and showed dose-dependent improvements over time in functional outcome measures with potential improvements in safety. This new drug holds promise as an effective yet safer steroidal anti-inflammatory agent.

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NB: "Dravet syndrome and parkinsonism: A case report investigating the dopaminergic system," p. 595. To check out other Clinical/Scientific Notes, point your browser to Neurology.org/N. At the end of the issue, check out the Resident & Fellow Mystery Case article discussing a case of a 59-year-old man with hypertension, hyperlipidemia, and type 2 diabetes presenting with sudden-onset bilateral ptosis, ataxia, and confusion. This week also includes a Resident & Fellow Teaching NeuroImages article titled "Frontal lobe involvement in adult-onset cerebral X-linked adrenoleukodystrophy."

#### **NEW EPISODE**



September 24, 2019

### **O** CME Opportunity:

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

Practice guideline update summary: Vaccinepreventable infections and immunization in multiple sclerosis: Report of the Guideline Development, Dissemination, and Implementation Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology (see p. 584)

- 1. Practice guideline update summary: Vaccine-preventable infections and immunization in multiple sclerosis: Report of the Guideline Development, Dissemination, and Implementation Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology
- 2. What's Trending: Drug pricing update: Part 2

In the first segment, Dr. Stacey Clardy talks with Dr. Mauricio Farez about his practice guideline update summary on vaccine-preventable infections and immunization in multiple sclerosis. In the second part of the podcast, Dr. Gordon Smith continues his discussion with Dr. Steve Pearson on a drug pricing update. Their previous discussion on drug pricing was featured in two parts on January 8, 2019, and January 15, 2019.

Disclosures can be found at Neurology.org.



### Spotlight on the September 24 issue

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