

# Neurology®

## Spotlight on the December 6 Issue

Robert A. Gross

*Neurology* 2011;77;2003

DOI 10.1212/WNL.0b013e31823c8acf

**This information is current as of December 8, 2011**

The online version of this article, along with updated information and services, is located on the World Wide Web at:

<http://www.neurology.org/content/77/23/2003.full.html>

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## In Focus

### Spotlight on the December 6 Issue

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#### Management and outcome of CSF-JC virus PCR-negative PML in a natalizumab-treated patient with MS

Varying degrees of immune-surveillance compromise may lead to abrogation of clinical and laboratory features thought to be typical for PML and enhance the potential of recovery from PML associated with efficient immune-function reconstitution. This case illustrates diagnostic challenges in the context of incomplete suppression and PML recovery associated with efficient immune-function restitution.

See p. 2010; Editorial, p. 2006

#### Sodium (<sup>23</sup>Na) MRI detects elevated muscular sodium concentration in Duchenne muscular dystrophy

Eleven patients with Duchenne muscular dystrophy and 16 healthy volunteers of similar age were examined with 3-T <sup>1</sup>H-MRI and sodium density-adapted 3D-radial MR sequences. Increased muscular Na<sup>+</sup> concentration may be a general mechanism in muscular degeneration.

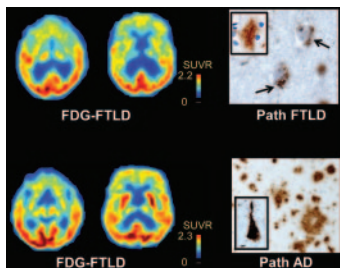
See p. 2017

#### Severe cutaneous adverse reactions to antiepileptic drugs in Asians

One hundred fifty-four patients with antiepileptic drug (AED)-induced severe cutaneous adverse reactions (SCARs) were analyzed for demographic characteristics, causative AEDs, latent period, organ involvement, complications, and mortality. Carbamazepine, phenytoin, and lamotrigine were the major causative AEDs for SCARs. Nonaromatic AEDs were safe alternatives for patients with aromatic AED-induced SCARs.

See p. 2025

#### Amyloid vs FDG-PET in the differential diagnosis of AD and FTLD



Differentiating Alzheimer disease and frontotemporal lobar degeneration is challenging. This study compared the diagnostic performance of PIB and FDG-PET; PIB visual reads had higher sensitivity for

AD. Amyloid imaging is a promising diagnostic tool for the assessment of dementia.

See p. 2034

*From editorialists Johnson and Dickerson: "Further research will be necessary to determine the best place for amyloid PET in relation to FDG-PET, MRI, spinal fluid analysis, and other tests in the recommended sequence of diagnostic evaluations of patients with dementia. ..."*

See p. 2008

#### Neurocognitive abilities in young adults with very low birth weight

As part of the Helsinki Study, 103 very low birth weight adults and 105 term-born controls without major neurosensory impairments participated in this follow-up study. In comparison to controls, poorer neurocognitive performance was associated with very low birth weight irrespective of the intrauterine growth pattern.

See p. 2052

#### Cervical carotid artery dissection is associated with styloid process length

Styloid process anatomy on CT angiography was compared between cohorts of 38 cases with cervical internal carotid artery dissection and 38 age- and sex-matched controls without dissection. Dissection was associated with increasing styloid process length with a 4-fold increased risk of dissection in the highest quartile compared to the lower 3 quartiles.

See p. 2061

#### GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

##### The 2011 UN General Assembly on noncommunicable diseases: How neurologic disorders got left out

The 2011 UN General Assembly meeting on noncommunicable disease almost entirely excluded neurologic disorders. The conditions and risk factors targeted were relatively uncommon in low-income countries. If attention is limited to this subset, most neurologic patients will continue to suffer neglect and suboptimal care.

See p. 2067

**NB:** As the journal ends its 60th year of publication, take a look at the final Special Editorial by a previous Editor. This one is titled: "Three tough acts to follow." Point your browser to [www.neurology.org](http://www.neurology.org) to check out the others, published in March, June, and September.

Podcasts can be accessed at [www.neurology.org](http://www.neurology.org)

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