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IN BRIEF

PAIN

Prism glasses for limb-specific autonomic dysfunction in complex regional pain syndrome

In unilateral upper-limb complex regional pain syndrome (CPRS), the temperature of the hands varies according to their location relative to the body midline. Moseley *et al.* tested the effect of prism glasses that laterally shift the visual field by 20°, in 10 patients with CPRS. Whereas moving the hand from the affected side to the healthy side of the body increased the hand temperature, this effect did not occur when patients wore prism glasses, which made the hand appear not to cross the midline. The researchers concluded that cortical mechanisms underlying perceived hand location modulate hand temperature in CPRS.

Original article Moseley, G. M. *et al.* Limb-specific autonomic dysfunction in complex regional pain syndrome modulated by wearing prism glasses. *Pain* doi:10.1016/j.pain.2013.07.026

DEMENTIA

Risk factors associated with dementia with Lewy bodies

A recent study has investigated potential risk factors for dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB) in a cohort of 147 patients. Of the 19 candidate factors studied, a history of anxiety, stroke, family history of Parkinson disease (PD), and harbouring the apolipoprotein ε4 allele were more common in cases than in controls. As in Alzheimer disease and PD, depression and low caffeine intake seemed to be associated with increased risk of DLB.

Original article Boot, B. P. *et al.* Risk factors for dementia with Lewy bodies. A case-control study. *Neurology* doi:10.1212/WNL.0b013e3182a2cbb1

STROKE

Routine cardiac event monitoring for detection of atrial fibrillation after ischaemic stroke

Following ischaemic stroke, atrial fibrillation (AF) can increase the risk of stroke recurrence, but this cardiac phenomenon is currently incompletely detected. A study in 100 patients examined the potential benefit of noninvasive cardiac monitoring after stroke. Within 14 days, AF was detected in 44% patients undergoing cardiac monitoring plus standard practice investigation, versus 4% of patients undergoing the latter only. Routine monitoring for AF after stroke could, therefore, help to inform treatment decisions.

Original article Higgins, P. *et al.* Noninvasive cardiac event monitoring to detect atrial fibrillation after ischemic stroke. *Stroke* doi:10.1161/STROKEAHA.113.001927

WHITE MATTER DISEASE

Longest follow-up of rituximab for neuromyelitis optica

A 5-year follow-up study of rituximab therapy in 30 patients with neuromyelitis optica has shown reassuring results. Over the 5 years, 87% of patients showed a substantial reduction in annualized relapse rate, and 60% became relapse free. Moreover, disability stabilized or improved in 93% of patients. No serious adverse events were observed. The findings support the long-term safety and efficacy of rituximab for this indication.

Original article Kim, S.-H. *et al.* A 5-year follow-up of rituximab treatment in patients with neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorder. *JAMA Neurol.* doi:10.1001/jamaneurol.2013.3071