Nature Reviews Neurology **10**, 308 (2014); published online 27 May 2014;
doi:10.1038/nrneurol.2014.93;
doi:10.1038/nrneurol.2014.94;
doi:10.1038/nrneurol.2014.95;
doi:10.1038/nrneurol.2014.96

IN BRIEF

PARKINSON DISEASE

Patients with Parkinson disease request more research into living with the disease

A survey of patients living with Parkinson disease (PD) has revealed areas that they feel require more research. In addition to fundamental research and drug development, the main priorities for patients included effective strategies for living and coping with the disease. The results of this survey could help to shape the future research agenda for PD, so that the concerns of patients and their caregivers can be more effectively addressed.

Original article Schipper, K. *et al.* Living with Parkinson's disease: priorities for research suggested by patients. *Parkinsonism Relat. Disord.* doi:10.1016/j.parkreldis.2014.04.025

NEUROIMMUNOLOGY

Sphingosine-1-phosphate receptor 2 is implicated in sex-specific differences in CNS autoimmunity

Multiple sclerosis (MS) has a higher incidence in women than in men, but the mechanisms underlying this sex difference are unclear. Cruz-Orengo and colleagues generated mice with experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE), which recapitulates many features of MS, including the sexual dimorphism. The researchers found that the female mice displayed higher levels of sphingosine-1-phosphate receptor 2 in EAE-susceptible regions of the CNS than did their male counterparts, indicating a role for this molecule in sex-specific control of CNS autoimmunity.

Original article Cruz-Orengo, L. *et al.* Enhanced sphingosine-1-phosphate receptor 2 expression underlies female CNS autoimmunity susceptibility. *J. Clin. Invest.* doi:10.1172/JCI73408

NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASE

Mutant huntingtin can spread to allografted neurons in patients with Huntington disease

Intracerebral transplantation of fetal striatal tissue is being investigated as a potential treatment for Huntington disease (HD), but the results of clinical trials have been disappointing. Cicchetti *et al.* examined postmortem brain tissue from three patients with HD who had received fetal neural allografts, and found evidence that mutant huntingtin had spread into the grafted tissue. This finding might help to explain the lack of success of the approach, as well as raising new questions regarding the propagation of HD pathology in the brain.

Original article Cicchetti, F. *et al.* Mutant huntingtin is present in neuronal grafts in Huntington's disease patients. *Ann. Neurol.* doi:10.1002/ana.24174

SLEEP

R-baclofen shows promise as a treatment for narcolepsy

The GABA_B receptor agonist R-baclofen (R-BAC) improves non-rapid eye movement sleep quality and alleviates cataplexy in a mouse model of narcolepsy, a new study has shown. Interestingly, R-BAC was found to be more effective than γ -hydroxybutyrate (GHB), a drug that has already been approved by the FDA for the treatment of narcolepsy. The results indicate that R-BAC warrants further investigation as a possible therapy for narcolepsy and other sleep disorders.

Original article Black, S. W. *et al.* GABA_B agonism promotes sleep and reduces cataplexy in murine narcolepsy. *J. Neurosci.* doi:10.1523/JNEUROSCI.0080-14.2014