

lignocaine can curtail chronic migraine and analgesic rebound headache (1). Further, ketamine provides short-term analgesia and enables reduction in central sensitisation of pain pathways, particularly in the setting of codeine/opioid overuse (2). This paper describes use of subcutaneous lignocaine and ketamine infusion in chronic migraine.

**Methods** A prospective observational cohort study was undertaken in patients with chronic migraine. Patients received a prolonged subcutaneous lignocaine and ketamine infusion (mean duration 11 days) and underwent evaluation at four-time points over six months. The effects on the excitability of motor axons in the median nerve were documented using standard procedures.

**Results** Fourteen patients were recruited. The infusion was well tolerated; no major side effects were seen. There were no significant long-term changes in the excitability of motor axons. At six months, 13/14 patients had sustained benefit. Three of 4 patients remained free of analgesic rebound headache. One patient remained headache-free. Conversion to episodic migraine occurred in 6/14. Improvement in chronic migraine was reported by 6/14. Three of six were able to return to work, with 1 returning to studies. Benefit was greater in those with depression and history of opioid/codeine use.

**Conclusion** Subcutaneous lignocaine and ketamine can help break entrenchment in chronic migraine as part of a structured management plan.

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#### THE EFFECT OF CLADRIBINE TABLETS ON DELAYING THE TIME TO CONVERSION TO CLINICALLY DEFINITE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS (MS) OR MCDONALD MS IS CONSISTENT ACROSS SUBGROUPS IN THE ORACLE-MS STUDY

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**Introduction** In the Phase 3 ORACLE-MS trial in 616 subjects with a first demyelinating event at high risk of converting to multiple sclerosis (MS), treatment with cladribine tablets 10 mg (3.5 mg/kg or 5.25 mg/kg cumulative dose over 2 years [CT3.5 and CT5.25, respectively]) significantly delayed time to conversion to clinically definite multiple sclerosis (CDMS) according to Poser criteria (67% or 62% risk reduction [RR], respectively) and time to conversion to 2005 McDonald MS (50% or 57% RR, respectively), versus placebo. The objective was to analyze the effect of cladribine tablets vs placebo on conversion to CDMS and McDonald MS across ORACLE-MS patient subgroups based on baseline characteristics.

**Methods** In this post-hoc analysis, time-to-conversion to CDMS or McDonald MS over the double-blind period was analyzed for patients treated with CT5.25 (N=204), CT3.5 (N=206) or placebo (N=206) across different subgroups. Subgroups were defined by baseline characteristics which have been investigated as potential predictors of CDMS conversion (age [ $<30$  or  $\geq 30$  years], gender, first classification demyelinating event [monofocal or multifocal], presence of T1 Gd+ lesions and number of T2 lesions [ $<9$  or  $\geq 9$ ]).

**Results** Treatment with CT3.5 or CT5.25 was consistently efficacious across the subgroups examined on conversion to

CDMS versus placebo for most comparisons (RR range: CT3.5, 39%–72%; CT5.25, 36%–79%). Similarly, treatment effect of both doses on conversion to 2005 McDonald MS was consistent across subgroups (CT3.5, 40%–59%; CT5.25, 42%–79%).

**Conclusions** The effect of cladribine tablets on delaying the time-to-conversion to CDMS, or to McDonald MS, is consistent across subgroups.

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#### CEREBELLAR OEDEMA IN FULMINANT ADULT LEIGH SYNDROME

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**Introduction** We report a case of adult Leigh syndrome resulting in rapidly fatal cerebellar oedema.

**Case** A 19-year-old female presented with a five-week history of hyperventilation, generalised weakness, dysarthria and bilateral ptosis. Brain Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) findings and the presence of a mitochondrial mutation (NC\_012920.1 (MT-ATP6):m.9176T>C) in blood and urine with approximately 97% heteroplasmy, confirmed a diagnosis of Leigh syndrome.

Two-days after a normal lumbar puncture, opening pressure 8cm water, her conscious level rapidly declined. CT revealed marked cerebellar oedema with brainstem compression. Despite immediate decompression, she did not recover consciousness and died six-weeks after symptom onset.

**Conclusion** Adult Leigh syndrome is a progressive untreatable inherited mitochondrial disorder typically of infants and children. Adult cases are rare and described mostly in single case reports. There is marked phenotypic and genotypic variability. Over 83% of Leigh's syndrome is identified by the age of 2 years, however, there have been cases reported in patients up to 74 years old. There are over 60 mutations described in Leigh syndrome, which are identified in only half of reported cases. Classic MRI changes include bilateral symmetric T2 hyper-intensities in the basal ganglia and brainstem. To our knowledge, this is the first reported case resulting in fulminant cerebellar oedema. A challenge of diagnosis remains the marked heterogeneity in presenting symptoms including cognitive decline, behavioural change and ophthalmoparesis. Typically, this syndrome has been confirmed by histopathology at autopsy. Advances in genetics and imaging have allowed earlier accurate diagnosis, potentially paving the way for improved therapeutics.

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#### MOTOR NEURON DISEASE WITH MALIGNANCY: CLINICAL AND PATHOPHYSIOLOGICAL INSIGHTS

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**Introduction** While some regard an association between motor neuron disease (MND) and malignancy as co-incidental, others

have argued that it could represent a distinct clinical entity. The present study undertook in depth phenotyping along with assessment of cortical function to further explore disease pathophysiology in MND with malignancy (MND-M) patients.

**Methods** Clinical features along with assessment of peripheral and cortical function was undertaken in 13 MND-M and results were compared to sporadic and familial MND cohorts.

**Results** From a cohort 13 patients (10 males; aged  $65.2 \pm 2.0$  years), 30.8% were diagnosed with a haematological malignancy. The lower motor neuron phenotype predominated in the in the MND-M patients ( $\chi^2=10.8$ ,  $P<0.01$ ), with the upper motor neuron (UMN) score being significantly reduced in MND-M patients compared to sporadic and familial MND cohorts ( $\chi^2=6.84$ ,  $P<0.01$ ). The neurological deficits did not respond to treatment of the underlying malignancy in the majority of MND-M (92%) patients, and as such there were no significant differences in survival between the cohorts. Despite a paucity of UMN signs, cortical hyperexcitability was evident in MND-M patients, as indicated by reduction in short interval intracortical inhibition ( $P<0.01$ ) and increase in motor evoked potential amplitude ( $P<0.01$ ), that were similar to findings in sporadic and familial MND cohorts.

**Conclusions** The present study suggests that MND-M falls within the spectrum of MND. A co-incidental association between MND and malignancy is underscored by cortical dysfunction and clinical findings which seems within the spectrum of abnormality evident in classical MND phenotypes.

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#### HOW TO DIAGNOSE LEWY BODY DEMENTIA? PREVALENCE AND UNDERLYING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CLINICAL AND NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL FEATURES OF DLB

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**Introduction** Despite its importance for management, prognostication and selection of patients for clinical trials, the diagnosis of Dementia with Lewy Bodies (DLB) remains challenging. Complicating this is a recent change in the diagnostic criteria which has arguably shifted the expected phenotype of DLB patients. In this study we aimed to characterize and examine the relationship between cognitive and clinical diagnostic variables in DLB patients to uncover latent symptom clusters that may streamline future diagnostic approaches in the clinic.

**Methods** The clinical and neuropsychological profile of 27 prospectively recruited participants diagnosed with *probable* DLB and 25 age-matched controls was characterized according to the most recent consensus criteria. Symptoms were scored using a novel combination of established clinical and research instruments.

**Results** We demonstrate comparable sensitivity of formal neuropsychological testing and bedside screening tools (MOCA/MMSE) for identifying domain-specific differences between controls and patients ( $p<0.001$ ). Optimal sensitivity thresholds for diagnosis of Parkinsonism (88.9%) were explored yielding a prevalence range of 50%-90% within our cohort. Factor analysis using all core and supportive features of the diagnostic criteria identified 6 independent factors accounting for 81% of the total variance. Unique relationships identified included between hallucinations and fluctuations and excessive daytime

somnolence; between REM sleep behavior disorder and orthostatic hypotension; and Parkinsonism and urinary disturbance. ‘Prodromal’ symptoms including autonomic and early neuropsychiatric features are represented in the remaining factors.

**Conclusion** Parsimonious delineation of clinical variables using identified symptom clusters can aid DLB diagnosis. Clusters are also used to highlight latent pathological relationships. Appropriate instruments and thresholds for detecting dementia and core and suggestive features are presented.

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#### TOWARDS OBJECTIVE TESTING IN PARKINSON'S DISEASE: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE LOOKING AT ASSESSMENT OF POSTURAL SWAY

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**Introduction** Parkinson's Disease (PD) is associated with increased mortality and reduced quality of life. There is currently no accurate objective measure for use in diagnosis or assessment of severity. Analysis of postural sway may help in this regard. This systematic review aimed to assess the effectiveness of the various features currently used to analyse postural sway.

**Methods** Five databases were searched for articles that examined postural sway in both PD patients and controls. An effect size (ES) was derived for every feature reported in each article. The most effective features and feature-families were determined, along with the influence on these measures of data sampling rate and experimental condition.

**Results** 441 papers were initially retrieved, of which 31 met the requirements for analysis. The most commonly-used features were not the most effective (e.g. PathLength had an ES of 0.47 while TotalEnergy had an ES of 1.78). Decreased sampling rate was associated with decreased ES (e.g. ES of PathLength lowered from 1.12 at 100 Hz to 0.40 at 10 Hz). Being off medication was associated with a larger ES (e.g. ES of PathLength was 0.21 on medication and 0.83 off medication).

**Conclusions** Some measures of postural sway are better able to distinguish PD patients from controls than others. ES is enhanced by using a higher sampling rate and studying patients off medication. These results will inform future studies looking at postural sway in PD and contribute to the aim of finding an objective marker of the disease.

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#### PREDICTING PARKINSON'S AND DEMENTIA WITH LEWY BODIES (PRE-D) RESEARCH STUDY – A SYDNEY-BASED LONGITUDINAL BIOBANKING PROGRAM

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**Introduction** Idiopathic REM sleep behaviour (iRBD) disorder represents the most specific prodromal marker of an