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1036 Copy Number Variation in Syndromic Forms of Psychiatric Illness: The Emerging Value of Clinical Genetic Testing in Psychiatry

Christian G. Bouwkamp, Ph.D., et al. EDITORIAL • CME • AUDIO

Clinical Guidance: Patients with comorbid axis I psychiatric disorders, intellectual disability, congenital abnormalities, and dysmorphic features have a 24% probability of having a detectable chromosomal copy number variation (CNV). Genetic testing can verify the diagnosis and help establish the prognosis.

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Takahiro A. Kato, M.D., Ph.D., Shigenobu Kanba, M.D., Ph.D.

Clinical Guidance: “Modern-type depression” in Japan is considered an adjustment disorder related to increasing Westernization. Patients exhibit a situation-dependent depressive state, are often absent from work, and tend to blame others. Group adaptive training is often beneficial, but antidepressants are not.

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1054 Rare Genome-Wide Copy Number Variation and Expression of Schizophrenia in 22q11.2 Deletion Syndrome

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Schizophrenia risk in 22q11.2 deletion syndrome is associated with additional rare copy number variations outside the 22q11.2 deletion region, supporting a multigenic hypothesis for schizophrenia.

1064 Declining Clinical Course of Psychotic Disorders Over the Two Decades Following First Hospitalization: Evidence From the Suffolk County Mental Health Project

Roman Kotov, Ph.D., et al. EDITORIAL • AUDIO • VIDEO

Clinical Guidance: Global functioning in patients with schizophrenia decreases over the 20 years following first hospitalization; worsening begins at 5–8 years. Patients with psychotic mood disorders also decline, but their baseline is higher and their decline is smaller.

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1075 The 20-Year Longitudinal Trajectories of Social Functioning in Individuals With Psychotic Disorders

Eva Velthorst, Ph.D., et al. EDITORIAL • CME • AUDIO

Clinical Guidance: Poorer social functioning in psychotic disorders is a relatively stable disability across the 20 years after first admission for psychosis, and it is associated with other unfavorable real-world outcomes. Psychotic mood disorders have better social outcomes than schizophrenia spectrum disorders.

1086 GERI-BD: A Randomized Double-Blind Controlled Trial of Lithium and Divalproex in the Treatment of Mania in Older Patients With Bipolar Disorder

Robert C. Young, M.D., et al. EDITORIAL • AUDIO

Clinical Guidance: Lithium and divalproex for patients age ≥ 60 with mania have similar, substantial efficacy and tolerability at conservative serum concentrations. Lithium was slightly more efficacious. The need for adjunctive risperidone was similar between groups, but twice as many divalproex patients required adjunctive lorazepam (20%).

1094 Vulnerability for Alcohol Use Disorder and Rate of Alcohol Consumption

Joshua L. Gowin, Ph.D., et al. EDITORIAL • CME • AUDIO • VIDEO

Clinical Guidance: Binge drinking may be an early indicator of vulnerability to alcohol use disorder, as young social drinkers with established alcohol disorder risk factors are more likely to binge during laboratory intravenous alcohol self-administration. Family history, male sex, and impulsivity have additive effects on the likelihood of bingeing.

1102 Reduced Structural Connectivity in Frontostriatal White Matter Tracts in the Associative Loop in Schizophrenia

James J. Levitt, M.D., et al.

Patients with chronic schizophrenia have lower structural connectivity in the striatal associative loop than healthy subjects. In healthy subjects, but not patients, worse cognitive control is predicted by reduced anatomical connectivity in the right dorsolateral prefrontal cortex–sensorimotor striatum integrative tract.

1112 Ventral Striatum Functional Connectivity as a Predictor of Adolescent Depressive Disorder in a Longitudinal Community-Based Sample

Pedro Mario Pan, M.D., et al.

Increased left ventral striatal node strength in the reward network during the resting state at age 6–12 years is associated with a 50% increase in the odds of new-onset depressive disorder 3 years later. The high node strength in the resting state may be related to the lowered response of the ventral striatum to reward, a trait that precedes depression.

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Cover: Autumn leaves at Belmont Lake State Park in Babylon, New York, part of Suffolk County. Two studies in this issue provide long-term data on clinical course (Kotov et al., p. 1064) and social functioning (Velthorst et al., p. 1075) in a cohort of first-admission patients with psychosis from Suffolk County followed over 20 years. (Image by Joe Trentacosti, Shutterstock.com)

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-  Interpersonal and Communication Skills
-  Systems-Based Practice.

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La Tabla de Contenidos de Este Número Está Disponible en Español

*(This issue's Table of Contents are available in Spanish)
(Abstracts are also available in Spanish)*

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EDITORIAL Discussed in one of the issue's editorials

VIDEO Highlighted online by Deputy Editor Daniel S. Pine, M.D.

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The American Journal of Psychiatry Residents' Journal

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AJP in Advance

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PTSD Psychotherapy Outcome Predicted by Brain Activation During Emotional Reactivity and Regulation

In one of two linked studies, authors compared brain function and treatment outcome in patients with PTSD randomized to exposure therapy or a waitlist condition. A combination of baseline functional brain measures during emotional reactivity and regulation predicted response to exposure therapy in patients with PTSD.

Selective Effects of Psychotherapy on Frontopolar Cortical Function in PTSD

In the second of two linked studies, exposure therapy for PTSD was followed by increased frontopolar function and connectivity with the ventromedial prefrontal cortex/ventral striatum during cognitive reappraisal of negative images. The increase in frontopolar activation was associated with improvement in hyperarousal and psychological well-being.



AJP CME

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In AJP Audio this month, Deputy Editor Susan K. Schultz, M.D., discusses clinical genetic testing in psychiatry, binge drinking as a possible risk factor for alcohol use disorder, lithium versus divalproex for bipolar disorder in the elderly, the course of schizophrenia over the first 20 years, as well as trajectories of social functioning over 20 years.

In this month's video, Deputy Editor Daniel S. Pine, M.D., discusses the articles "Declining Clinical Course of Psychotic Disorders Over the Two Decades Following First Hospitalization: Evidence From the Suffolk County Mental Health Project" and "Vulnerability for Alcohol Use Disorder and Rate of Alcohol Consumption."



History of Psychiatry

Revisit the field's rich history through the pages of AJP

50 years ago this month: "Mass Murder: The Wagner Case"

In the November 1967 issue, Dr. Hilde Bruch revisits the case of Ernst August Wagner, who in 1913 shot 25 people, killing 14 of them, including his wife and four children. Wagner's case was "considered a classic in the German psychiatric literature," and in the wake of the University of Texas tower shooting in August 1966, in which 18 people were killed, the Wagner case was revived in the German press. "Certain similarities can be recognized," Dr. Bruch observes: "seemingly well-functioning, intelligent, and ambitious men, leading exemplary middle-class lives, had quietly accumulated arsenals of weapons, practiced sharpshooting, and had made many other arrangements for carefully planned mass murders."

