

searched PubMed, Embase, and Scopus from January, 1990 to December, 2015 for publications comparing IV-Ig vs. SC-Ig in patients with CIDP or MMN. We performed fixed-effects meta-analyses for strength changes as measured by the Medical Research Council sum score changes (MRC-SS). *Results:* A total of 8 studies comprising 138 patients (88 with CIDP and 50 with MMN) were included in the meta-analysis. Considering the total population the use of SC-Ig showed slightly better results for MRC-SS (ES=-1.78, 95%CI=-3.45 to -0.11, I2<0.001%). However, when CIDP and MMN were compared separately, there were no differences between treatments (CIDP: ES=-0.28, 95%CI=-0.57 to 0.02, I2<0.001%; MMN: ES=-0.34, 95%CI=-3.99 to 3.31, I2<0.001%). *Conclusions:* We found comparable efficacy between SC and IV-Ig administrations for CIDP and MMN. These results suggest that SC-Ig is a suitable alternative treatment method, especially when other situations (e.g. convenience, safety profile) warrant its use. Further studies are needed to explore the efficacy of SC-Ig for CIDP and MMN.

## E.09

### Predictors of optimal endovascular therapy results among patients with acute ischemic stroke

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*Background:* Several studies have demonstrated the safety and efficacy of endovascular therapy for patients with acute ischemic stroke. However, patient, imaging and treatment factors associated with the optimal functional outcome require better definition. *Methods:* We pooled data from 8 randomized controlled trials (SYNTHESIS, MR RESCUE, IMS III, MR CLEAN, ESCAPE, EXTEND-IA, SWIFT-PRIME, and REVASCAT). We conducted subgroup and sensitivity analyses to evaluate predictors of optimal functional results (modified Rankin scale, mRS) at 90 days. *Results:* Meta-analysis of 8 trials including 2,423 patients yielded that endovascular therapy resulted in 44.6% functional independence (mRS 0-2) versus 31.8% in the usual care group (OR 1.71, 95% CI 1.18-2.49, P=0.005). This treatment effect was significantly greater among patients with confirmed angiographic imaging of proximal arterial occlusion (OR 2.24, 95% CI 1.72-2.90, P<0.001), in patients who received the combined therapy of intravenous tPA and endovascular intervention (OR 2.07, 95% CI 1.46-2.92, P<0.001), and when using stent retriever for mechanical thrombectomy (OR 2.39, 95% CI 1.88-3.04, P<0.001). *Conclusions:* The relative functional benefit associated with endovascular therapy among patients with acute ischemic stroke was increased when combined with intravenous tPA, with confirmed proximal arterial occlusion on angiographic imaging, and with use of stent retrievers for mechanical thrombectomy.

## E.11

### Non-invasive ventilation in patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis: practice patterns amongst Canadian care providers

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*Background:* The purpose of this study was to: 1) describe current non-invasive ventilation (NIV) usage patterns amongst Canadian ALS healthcare providers; 2) compare/contrast with previous practice patterns; and 3) explore barriers to NIV access encountered by current practitioners. *Methods:* Healthcare professionals (including physicians, respiratory therapists, and nurses) at major Canadian ALS care centres were sent a web-based survey. Participants were asked to provide input on practice demographics, access and initiation of NIV, and follow-up of NIV. Quantitative data were analyzed with descriptive and comparative statistics, while qualitative data were analyzed using interpretative phenomenological analysis method to identify emergent themes. *Results:* 26 participants responded. Median NIV usage was 39% (range 10-100%), about double of what was previously reported (18%). Mean times from referral to routine and urgent NIV initiation were 13 (95% CI 9-17) and 5 (95% CI 3-7) days respectively. NIV was most commonly initiated in clinic (68%), while 38% report having access to home-NIV initiation. Lack of social support (62%) and cognitive impairment (46%) were the most common deterrents to initiating NIV. Similar to what is previously reported, barriers to access can be stratified to patient, clinical, institutional, and regional levels. *Conclusions:* Despite increased usage and improved access, there remain considerable barriers for ALS patients to receive NIV.

## CNSS PLATFORM PRESENTATIONS

### F.01

#### Prognostic factors in adults with spinal cord injury without radiological abnormalities (SCIWORA): MRI study

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*Background:* Spinal Cord Injury Without Radiological Abnormality (SCIWORA) is underreported and poorly recognized in adults. This entity is an important subtype of spinal cord injury (SCI) with relatively good outcomes. Despite this, few studies have been performed to determine specific imaging-related prognostic factors. *Methods:* A retrospective review of adult patients with cervical SCI admitted to two University hospitals from January 2000 to December 2010 was performed. Only patients with an MRI performed within 72 hours after trauma were included. All patients with bony injury or traumatic malalignment were excluded. Data gathered on the remaining patients included demographics, mechanism of injury, severity of SCI, long-term patient outcome, improvement in neurological condition and MRI results. *Results:* 49 patients selected. Patients with extramedullary hemorrhage showed worse neurological status at initial examination. Disruption of either the anterior longitudinal