Working Memory

New observations provide a neural link between the perception of visual objects and the subsequent storage of visual information in working memory. Super (page 809) provides unique insights into this crucial area of memory function and the neurologic symptoms that occur when these functions are altered.

Getting the Spinal Cord to Think for Itself

Activation of spinal cord circulation independent of the higher centers is an emerging and dynamic area of neuroscience and clinical neurology. Kalb (page 805) provides the neurobiologic basis for autonomous spinal cord functioning and potential therapies.

14-3-3 Protein and Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease

Levels of 14-3-3 protein in cerebrospinal fluid may be helpful to diagnose Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, but we must be aware of false-negatives and false-positives and the wider spectrum of differential diagnoses, as emphasized by Geschwind and colleagues (page 813). Editorial perspective is provided by Allen J. Aksamit, MD.

Temporal Lobectomy With Porencephaly and Sclerosis

As emphasized by Burneo and colleagues (page 830), patients with extratemporal porencephaly and intractable seizures should be evaluated early and considered for temporal lobectomy if findings on clinical examination, magnetic resonance imaging, and electroencephalogram support seizures of temporal lobe onset.

Effect of Rivastigmine and Alzheimer Disease

Farlow and colleagues (page 843) show that after discontinuation of therapy, patients treated with rivastigmine exhibited less deterioration in cognitive functions compared with patients receiving a placebo. The use of this drug is defined and refined in this interesting clinical trial.

Following-up Charcot-Marie-Tooth Disease Type 2

This prospective study by Teunissen and colleagues (page 823) shows a slow deterioration of muscle strength and an increase in disability in patients with type 2 Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease during a 5-year follow-up period.

Apolipoprotein E ε4 and the Risk for Seizures

Inheritance of the apolipoprotein E ε4 allele is associated with an increased risk for late posttraumatic seizures as detailed by Diaz-Arrastia and colleagues (page 818).

Inherited Ataxia in Korean Patients

Lee and colleagues (page 858) provide the first detailed analysis of the clinical characteristics of the genetically defined CAG repeat spinocerebellar ataxias in Korean patients. An important clinical and molecular correlation defines the natural history of disease in these patients.