

Expanding the Horizons of Neurology: Perspectives for a Changing World

Neurology is experiencing a period of profound transformation. While advances in neuroscience continue to improve our understanding of neurological diseases, the field is increasingly challenged to move beyond traditional biological paradigms. Environmental changes, social inequalities, emerging infections, and multidisciplinary approaches are reshaping the burden and practice of neurology. This issue of the *Revista Brasileira de Neurologia* reflects this evolving landscape through contributions spanning global perspectives, clinical research, neurodegeneration, rare neurological disorders, rehabilitation, and medical education.

We are especially honored to open this issue with an invited Opinion Article by Professor Li M. Li, Associate Editor of the *Revista Brasileira de Neurologia* and Professor at the State University of Campinas (UNICAMP). In this timely contribution, Professor Li explores the impact of climate change on epilepsy, an emerging yet underrecognized challenge in contemporary neuroscience. By proposing epilepsy as a sentinel neurological disorder, he highlights the complex interactions among environmental, biological, and social determinants of health. Rising temperatures, air pollution, climate-sensitive infections, healthcare disruptions, and socioeconomic inequalities may influence seizure control and neurological outcomes. This perspective encourages neurologists to incorporate planetary health principles into research, healthcare planning, and clinical practice, illustrating the role of scientific journals in fostering debate on issues that will shape the future of neurology.

The original study by *Torres et al.* on adults with epilepsy from Northeastern Brazil reinforces the need to approach epilepsy as a multidimensional disorder. The authors demonstrate a significant burden of psychiatric comorbidities, migraine, polypharmacy, and drug-resistant epilepsy, emphasizing the importance of comprehensive care and regional epidemiological data.

Clinical reasoning and diagnostic vigilance are highlighted in three case reports of infectious diseases affecting the nervous system. *Andrade and Lambrecht* describe *Listeria monocytogenes* meningo-rhombencephalitis in an immunocompetent adult,

emphasizing the importance of detailed clinical history for diagnosis. *Bonacossa Sant'Anna et al.* report acute dengue-associated longitudinally extensive myelitis, expanding the spectrum of neurological manifestations of arboviral infections. *Evangelista et al.* highlight neuroparacoccidioidomycosis as an important differential diagnosis in endemic regions. Together, these reports reinforce the value of clinical observation and regional epidemiological knowledge in neurological practice.

Neurodegenerative disorders are addressed from complementary perspectives. *Lemos et al.* review dysautonomia in Parkinson's disease, emphasizing the relevance of early non-motor manifestations for diagnosis and disease management. The study by *de Jesus et al.* explores functional impairment in spinocerebellar ataxias, supporting the integration of clinical scales and functional assessments to guide rehabilitation strategies.

Rodrigues et al. addresses medical education by revealing gaps in students' confidence regarding the diagnosis of neurological manifestations of leprosy. These findings highlight that improving neurological care depends not only on scientific advances but also on strengthening medical training, particularly for neglected diseases.

Although diverse in scope, the contributions in this issue share a common message: neurological diseases result from complex interactions among biological, environmental, social, and healthcare factors. Modern neurology requires an integrated perspective that combines scientific rigor with clinical awareness and public health responsibility.

The *Revista Brasileira de Neurologia* remains committed to disseminating research that reflects the diversity of neurological science and the realities of clinical practice in Brazil and beyond. We hope this issue stimulates scientific dialogue, promotes collaboration, and encourages neurologists to continue expanding the horizons of neurology and neurosciences, from the bedside to public health, from molecular mechanisms to planetary health, and from regional experience to global scientific leadership.

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