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**Caption** La Crosse encephalitis virus. Coloured transmission electron micrograph (TEM) of La Crosse (LAC) encephalitis virus particles (virions). Each particle consists of an icosahedral protein coat (capsid, yellow rings) surrounding single-stranded ribonucleic acid (RNA), the virus' genetic material. This virus is an arbovirus (arthropod-borne virus), being transmitted to humans by mosquitos, but it can also spread through bites from infected mammals. In humans, symptoms can be severe, the worst being seizures, coma, paralysis and permanent brain damage from encephalitis (brain inflammation). The virus was first discovered in 1963 in La Crosse, Wisconsin, USA.

## Editors' commentary

- 425** Highlights from this issue  
P E M Smith, G N Fuller

## Editorial

- 426** Thymectomy: the more you know, the more you know you don't know  
J Sussman
- 428** *Practical Neurology* reader survey 2016  
G N Fuller, P E M Smith

## Reviews

- 431** Clinical challenges in the diagnosis and management of postural tachycardia syndrome  
P K Jones, B H Shaw, S R Raj
- 439** Bell's palsy syndrome: mimics and chameleons  
G Fuller, C Morgan
- 445** A practical approach to the patient presenting with dropped head  
M Cauchi, E Marsh



## A difficult case

- 452** Psychogenic non-epileptic seizures in early Huntington's disease  
F B Rodrigues, E J Wild
- 455** Trigeminal autonomic cephalgia caused by recurrent posterior scleritis  
A Alim-Marvasti, J Ho, M Weatherall, M Patel, S George, S Viegas
- 458** Basal ganglia necrosis: a 'best-fit' approach  
M Boca, K Lloyd, M Likeman, P Jardine, A Whone
- 462** Progressive weakness and intermittent low-grade fever in a Libyan man  
J Milburn, D Shatti, H Manji, A Everitt

## Clinicopathological conference

- 466** Clinicopathological case: rapid cognitive decline in an older man  
S Scott, J Chataway, J Stone, C Smith, R Davenport

## How to do it

- 475** Telephone review for people with epilepsy  
P E M Smith

## Image of the moment

- 478** Ruptured intracranial dermoid cyst  
D J T McArdle, S J Karia

## Neurological letter from

- 480** Neurology letter from Guyana  
L Mantoan Ritter, J Cole

## Neurological rarities

- 484** Putting pontine anatomy into clinical practice: the 16 syndrome  
M R B Evans, R A Weeks
- 488** CIDP presenting as recurrent severe back pain without weakness or sensory loss  
D Bäumer, D J Grant, R Knight, C Buckley, D Bennett, S Rinaldi
- 493** Central pontine myelinolysis secondary to hyperglycaemia  
H Donnelly, S Connor, J Quirk
- 496** Ovarioleukodystrophy due to *EIF2B5* mutations  
R T Ibitoye, S A Renowden, H J Faulkner, N J Scolding, C M Rice

## Neuromythyology

- 500** The palmomental reflex: stop scratching around!  
J M Schott, M N Rossor

## Book club

- 502** The Iceberg: A memoir  
K Harding

## Carphology

- 503** Carphology  
A Fo Ben

## ABN news

- 504** ABN news  
D J Burn, J Lawrence



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