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Cover image

Rosehip Neuron, acrylic and resin on canvas, by Amy Davis Roth @surlyamy, used with permission. This type of inhibitory interneuron neurone, named for its rosehip-like axonal boutons, exists only in human cerebral cortex, which may explain why many treatments for neurological disorders work in mouse models but fail in humans. This issue features a number of articles addressing the intersection of neuroscience and anaesthesia including perioperative neurocognitive disorders (Amado and colleagues, pp 275–281), plasma biomarkers of exposure to anaesthesia alone (Deiner and colleagues., pp 282–290; editorial by Evered & Scott, pp. 227–229), electroencephalographic monitoring of anaesthetic depth during cardiopulmonary bypass (Kaiser and colleagues, pp. 291–297), prevention of postoperative cognitive decline by potassium channel blockade (Lai and colleagues., pp 298–307; editorial by Wang and colleagues, pp. 346–357), and resistance to state transitions under volatile anaesthesia (Wasilczuk and colleagues, pp. 308–320; editorial by Eagleman & MacIver, pp. 253–258).

Credit: Amy Davis Roth @surlyamy