A Glimpse at Immunomodulators in MS

An Interview with

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Introduction

- This interview with Dr Freedman will discuss:
 - History of immunomodulators in the treatment of relapsing-remitting MS (RRMS)
 - The central role of immunomodulators in MS treatment
 - Personalizing treatment algorithms for MS including co-morbidities and lifestyle of the patient
 - Considerations and future directions in the treatment of MS

History of Immunomodulators in RRMS

- Disease-modifying drugs or immunomodulators
 - Target the pathogenic processes of MS
 - Can alter the course of MS
- Interferon-beta-1b (IFN-β1b) was the first treatment approved for relapsing-remitting MS (RRMS)

Ransohoff RM, Hafler DA, Lucchinetti CF. Nat Rev Neurol 2015;11(3):134-142.

Immunopathogenesis of Multiple Sclerosis (MS)





Timeline of MS Treatment Approvals



Immunopathogenesis of MS in the <u>Periphery</u> for Available Disease Modifying Therapies



Immunopathogenesis of MS in the <u>CNS</u> for Available Disease Modifying Therapies



LIMIT THE DAMAGE

Previously Used Simplified Algorithm for the Treatment of MS



BARTS-MS TREAT-2-TARGET-NEDA ALGORITHM

NEDA = no evident disease activity



Giovannoni G et al., Mult Scler Relat Disord 2015;4(4):329-33

Personalized Risk-Benefit Assessment of Newer Therapies



Cole A. Ann Indian Acad Neurol 2015;18(1):S30–S34

Lower Burden with Treatment Frequency?

Not US

12/16



^aTotal number of administrations over the first 12 months of treatment. ^b3.5 mg/kg. 5 days of treatment separated by 1 month: total number of tablets dependent on weight. ^c These agents are under clinical investigation and have not been proven to be safe and effective. There is no guarantee they will be approved in the sought-after indication. IFN, interferon; sc, subcutaneous; SmPC, Summary of Product Characteristics. 1. Rebit® EU SmPC; 2. Copaxone® SPC; 3. Aubagio® EU SmPC; 4. Tecfidera® EU SmPC; 5. Tysabri® EU SmPC; 6. Gilenya® EU SmPC; 7. Lemtrada® EU SmPC; 8. Zinbryta® EU SmPC; 9. Giovannoni G, et al. N Engl J Med 2010;362:416–26; 10. Kappos L et al. Lancet 2011;378:1779–87; 11. Katsarava Z et al. BMC Neurol 2015;15:170; 12. Kruk ME, Schwalbe N. Clin Ther 2006;28:1989–95; 13. Devonshire V et al. Eur J Neurol 2011:18:69-77

THINK AHEAD TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES

Considerations and Future Directions in MS Therapy

- A future-focused management plan that optimizes treatment and minimizes adverse effects
- Limiting exposure time of agents
- Combining and sequencing agents to achieve improved outcomes
- Rebaselining or retreating with safest immunomodulators or in combination with other therapies may be helpful in certain situations to maintain the desired response

Considerations for Lifestyle and Non-Pharmacologic therapy and Assessment of MS Treatment

- Lifestyle changes
 - Stop smoking
 - Exercise is helpful small bouts are good
 - Rehabilitation programs help
- Address Comorbidities
 - Obesity, Hypertension
 - Uncontrolled diabetes
 - Cardiovascular disease
- Traditional Outcome Measures
 - Benchmarking, relapses and disability
- Newer Measures of Outcome
 - MRI assessments
- Patient Reported Outcomes (PRO)



Ziemssen T et al., J Neurol 2016;263(6):1053-1065

Conclusions and Perspectives in MS

- Risk-benefit profiles of each agent should be considered in individual patients
- Personalized treatment algorithms should include optimal choice, sequences and combinations of currently available agents
- Lifestyle modifications and management of comorbidities should be incorporated in MS treatment approaches
- Immunomodulators are efficacious and safe for the treatment of MS
- MRI can be used to monitor disease, but can be misinterpreted
- A patient-centered approach is critical in the treatment and management of MS

References and Resources

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