Multiple Sclerosis

REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE WITH CLADRIBINE TABLETS IN MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS PATIENTS

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Background: Cladribine is an oral treatment approved for relapsing multiple sclerosis (RRMS) and is only administered in 2 treatment courses approximately 1 year apart. A third-year course is still controversial.

Objective: To analyse the real-world experience in MS patients treated with cladribine tablets during 4 years.

Methods: Observational prospective study in patients with RRMS starting treatment with cladribine since June 2018. Demographics, clinical characteristics, vaccination and safety were collected.

Results:

Among the 90 patients currently using oral cladribine 67% were females with a mean age of 44 years old, a disease duration of 7,9 years and a basal EDSS of 2.01.

25 % of patients were naïve, 51 % switched from first line therapies and 24% from second line. 92% patients were free of clinical activity in years 1/2 and 82% in years 3/4. Four of seven patients suffering from a relapse in years 3/4 have received a third treatment course with very mild adverse events. Adverse events were mild, with the most frequent being headache, fatigue and hair thinning. There was no case of serious infection, no opportunistic infections. The mean antibody titers response to SARS-CoV-2 of 46 fully vaccinated patients was at three weeks 4165 AU/mL (91-40000) at 6 weeks 15541 UA/mL (2100-44407) and at 3 months 16432 UA/ml (2700-48000).

Conclusions:

Cladribine is effective and safe in the real-world setting. A third treatment course were efficacious and very well tolerated. All MS treated patients with cladribine developed enough antibodies to SARS-CoV-2.