**Benefit/risk evaluation of multiple sclerosis treatments by patients and physicians**

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INTRODUCTION

- Disease-modifying treatments for multiple sclerosis (MS) are associated with reductions in the number and severity of relapses, MS disability activity, and the rate of disability progression.
- A number of factors, including efficacy, mode of administration, tolerability, and cost, influence decisions concerning treatment. MS is a chronic and relapsing-remitting inflammatory neurological disease that is characterized by the breakdown of myelin and the simultaneous infiltration of activated lymphocytes and macrophages into the spinal cord. The long-term goal of treatment is to improve the quality of life for MS patients. This goal can be achieved by reducing the frequency and severity of relapses, slowing disease progression, and improving physical and psychological function. The cognitive and functional impairment of MS patients may be improved by treatment. The severity of disability is determined by a combination of factors, including the degree of impairment, the duration of the condition, and the age of onset. The cognitive impairment may be improved by treatment. The severity of disability is determined by a combination of factors, including the degree of impairment, the duration of the condition, and the age of onset. The cognitive impairment may be improved by treatment. The severity of disability is determined by a combination of factors, including the degree of impairment, the duration of the condition, and the age of onset. The cognitive impairment may be improved by treatment.