Anti-JCV antibody status in MS patients: baseline results of STRATEGY-2

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INTRODUCTION

JCV is associated with progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML).

JCV DNA is found in >90% of healthy individuals.

Patients with MS have JCV DNA in their CSF.

JCV DNA was found in plaque-associated T cells in multiple sclerosis.

JCV antibodies are detectable in patients with MS.

METHODS

STRATEGY-2 is an ongoing, open-label, observational study that enrolled newly diagnosed MS patients who were being treated or monitored for treatment in other clinical studies.

Patient Demographics

Baseline anti-JCV antibody prevalence in STRATEGY-2

Age at enrollment

Gender distribution

Table 1: Baseline demographics at enrollment

Characteristics

Patients (n=455)

Age, yrs

19.1

Sex

29.9

Male

35.8

Female

23.6

Year of onset

44.6

When last assessed for disease activity, %

40.7

Prior MS therapy, %

19.3

Table 2: Natural history of treated patients in STRATEGY-2

Table 3: PML incidence is significantly lower in anti-JCV antibody-negative patients

CONCLUSIONS

STRATEGY-2 was the largest prospective study of JCV prevalence in MS and the largest study to date to monitoring a safety database for MS.

This study confirmed the previously demonstrated that JCV incidence in patients with MS is significantly lower than in anti-JCV antibody-negative patients.

The JCV antibody-negative patients were significantly more likely to receive interferon beta-1a or glatiramer acetate therapy than the JCV antibody-positive patients.

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