(S126) PATIENTS’ SATISFACTION WITH NATALIZUMAB INCREASES OVER TIME

J.J. Stephenson,1  L. Hou,1  S.S. Agarwal,2  K. Rajagopalan,2  S.A. Kamat1

1Research Operations, HealthCore, Inc, Wilmington, DE; 2Global Health Economics, Biogen Idec, Inc, Wellesley, MA

Background: Patient treatment satisfaction affects behaviors such as continued use of treatment. This is true in multiple sclerosis (MS), in which patients receive treatment with disease-modifying therapies to slow disease progression. The Treatment Satisfaction Questionnaire for Medication (TSQM) is a psychometrically valid measure of patients’ treatment satisfaction.

Objectives: To assess patient-reported treatment satisfaction with natalizumab over time in MS patients. Methods: MS patients starting natalizumab were invited to participate in a longitudinal study assessing their experiences with natalizumab. The TSQM was used at baseline (BL), prior to starting natalizumab, to assess patients’ perceptions regarding effectiveness (EFF), convenience (CON), and global satisfaction (GSA) of MS drugs and after the 3rd, 6th, and 12th infusions to assess patients’ satisfaction with natalizumab. Each subscale consists of three items, with responses on a 7-point Likert scale ranging from 1 (low) to 7 (high). Subscale scores are transformed to range from 0 to 100; higher scores indicate higher satisfaction. Regression models evaluated change from baseline through 12th infusion after controlling for number of infusions, age, years since MS diagnosis, BL disease disability, BL functional status, comorbidity burden, and number of MS drugs used prior to natalizumab.

Results: Data from 185 patients completing the 12th infusion assessment in this ongoing study indicate that 78% are female; the mean ± SD age is 47 ± 11 years, and the mean time since MS diagnosis is 11 ± 9 years. Almost all (97%) patients used ≥1 other MS drug before natalizumab. After controlling for covariates, significant increases in EFF (BL, 43.3 ± 5.4; 3rd, 59.9 ± 5.4; 6th, 70.2 ± 5.4; 12th, 72.4 ± 5.4; P < .0001), CON (BL, 59.9 ± 5.2; 3rd, 77.9 ± 3.7; 6th, 78.8 ± 2.2; 12th, 81.3 ± 0.7; P < .0001), and GSA (BL, 62.3 ± 2.9; 3rd, 75.2 ± 2.9; 6th, 76.7 ± 2.9; 12th, 77.7 ± 2.9; P < .0001) were observed. Number of infusions was significantly associated with improvement in treatment satisfaction scores (P < .001).

Conclusions: Patients’ satisfaction with natalizumab increased with increasing treatment duration. Patients reported significant increases in satisfaction with the effectiveness and convenience of, and global satisfaction with, natalizumab as compared with their satisfaction with other MS drugs used before initiating natalizumab.

Supported by: Biogen Idec, Inc and Elan Pharmaceuticals, Inc


Keywords: disease-modifying treatment in MS, quality of life in MS