

for patients diagnosed with psoriasis. The observed prevalence of psoriasis in MS patients was 12.19% however, the true prevalence is likely to be much higher as various symptoms of psoriasis were reported by a much larger proportion of MS patients. Of the 72 cases without psoriasis, various skin symptoms that were reported were intermittent irritation (for at least 6 months) or erythematous rash (35.4%), seasonal skin changes (39.0%) and thickened scaly skin behind ears and scalps (18.3%). Moreover, 18.3% had flaky, peeling or scaly skin while 24.4% experienced dandruff; 17.1% reported nail changes, and 13.4% reported a family history of psoriasis. The study also showed that combined psoriasis and eczema was relatively common at 3.7%.

Conclusions In this pilot study there is a high prevalence of psoriasis in patients with MS suggesting an immunopathological association between the two diseases and indicates that further studies should be done to elucidate common mechanisms, and the nature of this phenotype.

REFERENCE

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COMPARISON OF MULTIPLE DISEASE MODIFYING THERAPIES IN MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS WITH MARGINAL STRUCTURAL MODELS

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Background Because of methodological challenges comparisons of multiple treatments in multiple sclerosis cohorts have been limited to pairwise and triple comparisons.

Objectives Extend marginal structural models (MSM) to allow simultaneous comparisons of multiple MS treatments.

Methods We selected patients from the MSBase registry with Clinically Isolated Syndrome and Relapsing-Remitting MS followed for ≥ 1 year, with ≥ 3 visits, ≥ 1 visit per year and exposed to a MS therapy. MSMs were used to compare cumulative hazards of 6-month confirmed worsening and improvement of disability, and the incidence of relapses between treatments. MSMs were continuously re-adjusted for patient age, sex, pregnancy, date from first symptom, prior relapse history and MRI activity. We used MSMs to compare the Average Treatment Effect (ATE), the effect a treatment would have had if the entire study population had been

treated with this treatment vs. another treatment. We also estimated the Average Treatment Effect Among the Treated (ATT): comparison an observed effect of a treatment with a counterfactual (not observed) effect of another treatment in the same study population.

Results Among 23687 patients, we compared ATE of glatiramer acetate (reference), interferon b, natalizumab, fingolimod, dimethyl fumarate, and teriflunomide. In ATE, a reduction of relapse frequency was more prominent on natalizumab, followed by fingolimod (47% and 24% respectively, reference: glatiramer acetate) when compared with the other treatments. The ATT models confirmed these observations.

Conclusions Compared to other DMTs natalizumab and fingolimod were associated with superior reduction in relapse frequency than glatiramer acetate, interferon beta, teriflunomide and dimethyl fumarate.

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IMMUNOTHERAPY RESPONSIVE NEUROPATHIC PAIN ASSOCIATED WITH LGI1 AND CASP2 ANTIBODIES

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Objective We evaluated pain in leucine-rich glioma inactivated1(LGI1) and contactin-associated protein2(CASP2)-antibody positive(Ab+) patients, to evaluate clinical associations and pathophysiology of treatable pain syndromes.

Methods 108 LGI1-Ab+, 33 CASP2-Ab+, and 6 LGI1/CASP2-Ab+patients were phenotyped. Pain questionnaires were undertaken to identify neuropathic pain using the Douleur Neuropathique(DN4), patient reported outcome measurement information system(PROMIS), and quality of life(EQ5D). Skin biopsies, and serum binding to cell-based assays, sensory neuronal cocultures, and dorsal root ganglion(DRG) cultures were undertaken.

Results 39/147 patients described pain, including 17/33 CASP2-Ab+(52%), 20/108 LGI1-Ab+(19%), and 2 LGI1/CASP2-Ab+patients. Questionnaires completed in 23/39 (59%) revealed comparable DN4 scores($p=0.319$) with 58% of LGI1-Ab+ and 67% of CASP2-Ab+patients having neuropathic pain. Patients rated $>50\%$ response in 8/30(27%) analgesia trials, versus 20/40(55%) immunotherapy trials ($p=0.045$). PROMIS ratings were similar between LGI1-Ab+ and CASP2-Ab+patients at nadir($p=0.662$), but showed more improvement following immunotherapy in LGI1-Ab+ ($p=0.008$) than CASP2-Ab+patients($p=0.125$). At follow-up(median 57 months) CASP2-Ab+patients showed more impairment in mobility($p=0.014$), daily activities ($p=0.019$), and anxiety/depression($p=0.043$); and lower overall health($p=0.019$) on the EQ5D compared to LGI1-Ab+patients. Intraepidermal nerve fibre density was reduced in 2 LGI1-Ab+ and 1 CASP2-Ab+patients. Serum immunoglobulin G(IgG) from 6/16 CASP2-Ab+patients bound to sensory neuronal cocultures compared to 0/14 LGI1-Ab+patients($p=0.019$) and 0/12 healthy controls. Serum IgG from 10/16 CASP2-Ab+patients bound to DRG cultures