

February 28, 2015

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the edited manuscript in Word format.

Title: Treatment strategies for multiple sclerosis: when to start, when to change, when to stop?

Authors: Alberto Gajofatto, Maria Donata Benedetti

Name of Journal: *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

ESPS Manuscript NO: 16143

The manuscript has been improved according to the suggestions of reviewers:

Referee 2446333

We thank this referee for the positive comment

Referee 574024

We thank this referee for the positive comment. Changes have been made as suggested. In response to comment 4, units are mg/m². However, this line has been removed

Referee 646452

We thank this referee for the provided suggestions.

1) *Comprehensive description of rationale and evidence for disease-modifying drug therapies should be provided with Figures and Tables (lists) in order to understand critical factors affecting the start, change and stop*

Explanatory tables have been added to the manuscript

2) *Formatting of this manuscript should be corrected for this journal. For example, citation number should be put in front of period*

The manuscript format has been corrected according to journal style

3) *One updated reference will be included; The use of disease-modifying therapies in multiple sclerosis. A consensus paper by the Multiple Sclerosis Coalition (<http://www.ms-care.org/?page=dmr>)*

The suggested reference has been added [97]

Referee 2445870

We thank this reviewer for the useful comments.

1. *The line "...effective but at increased risk of serious adverse events..." should be explained, some of the most frequent adverse events must be included. (P5,p2,L14).*

A paragraph with the most relevant serious adverse events and the corresponding treatments has been added

2. *It would be useful a paragraph explaining that the main reason for the limited therapeutic benefits for MS is the lack of knowledge on the precise etiology.*

This statement has been added at the end of the Introduction

3. *The authors mention two of the most severe complications of immune-modifying therapies; VZV and JCV (P10 and 11). However, they do not explain these complications, moreover, they use the abridged terms (VZV, JCV, PML) without explaining the name of the viruses or the diseases (P10,p2,L12). A paragraph explaining the characteristics or severity of these risks should be included.*

Acronyms have been explained throughout the text and main characteristics of VZV- and JCV-related complications have been summarized

4. The line “Based on current...” must be placed above the line “when to start treatment...” (P15,p1,L1-2) so that this statement applies for all three conclusions.

The suggested change has been made

5. I think that the line: (good clinical practice point) (P15,p4,L3) should be deleted, this concept would be evident for the whole manuscript.

The sentence has been deleted.

Changes in the text have been made according to reviewers’ suggestions using the “track changes” tool of Word. Format has been updated. References and typesetting were corrected

Thank you again for considering our manuscript for publication in the *World Journal of Clinical Cases*.

Sincerely yours,

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Answer to chief editor,

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the revised manuscript file along with the clean version.

I have shortened the manuscript as much as possible. I hope it is now suitable for publication.

Please note that I have corrected the financial support statement in the cover page since this work was not supported by any funding.

Let me know if additional changes are required. Thank you.

Best regards,
Alberto Gajofatto