Management of Patients with Multiple Sclerosis within Health-System Specialty Pharmacies

Autumn D Zuckerman¹, Josh DeClerq¹, Aimee Banks¹, Abbi Blevins², Elizabeth Rightmier³, Dana Simonson⁴, Evan Turco², Julie Wawrzyniak³, Alicia L Zagel⁴, Leena Choi¹

Quick Facts

Multisite prospective cohort analysis to evaluate adherence, persistence, patientreported outcomes, and pharmacist actions for patients prescribed a disease-modifying therapy for multiple sclerosis (MS) at an health-system specialty pharmacy (HSSP).

Evaluated



968

patients prescribed DMT for MS



10,562

prescriptions filled



Across

4 sites



6,940

patient-reported outcomes (PRO) assessments

Adherence and Persistence



97%

median adherence



86%

persistent over 1 year

Patients who switched disease-modifying therapies (DMTs) over the 1-year follow-up were more likely to have lower adherence and were less likely to be persistent

¹Vanderbilt University Medical Center; ²West Virginia University Medicine Specialty Pharmacy Services, Allied Health Solutions; ³University of Rochester Specialty Pharmacy, UR Medicine; ⁴Fairview Specialty Pharmacy

Patient-Reported Outcomes



14.6%

of patients reported impacted productivity as a result of MS



4.7%

Low rates of relapse



1.9%

Low rates of MS-related hospitalization

Pharmacist Actions



3,683

pharmacist actions performed



4

median actions per patient



43%

general medication education



33%

safety

─Most common actions performed

Patients who reported impacted productivity had more pharmacist actions (p<0.001)

- Patients serviced by HSSPs benefited from high rates of DMT adherence and persistence. They also reported low rates of impacted productivity, relapse and hospitalization.
- Patients switching DMTs had lower adherence and persistence. Additional care coordination or providing resources may optimize therapy transitions. They also reported issues with productivity, so those taking certain DMTs may require more frequent pharmacist actions.





Zuckerman AD, DeClercq J, Simonson D, et al. Adherence and persistence to self-administered disease-modifying therapies in patients with multiple sclerosis: A multisite analysis. *Mult Scler Relat Disord*. 2023;75:104738. doi:10.1016/j.msard.2023.104738

Zuckerman AD, Banks AM, Wawrzyniak J, et al. Patient-reported outcomes and pharmacist actions in patients with multiple sclerosis managed by health-system specialty pharmacies [published online ahead of print, 2023 Aug 9]. Am J Health Syst Pharm. 2023;zxad180. doi:10.1093/ajhp/zxad180