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Introduction: Accelerated early CGMV loss occurs in interferon-treated RMS patients.

Methods: CGMV was quantified in randomized phase 3 (SUNBEAM–NCT02294058, RADIANCE–NCT02047734) trials comparing oral ozanimod 0.92 and 0.46mg/day with intramuscular interferon 30µg/week and an ongoing, open-label extension trial (DAYBREAK–NCT02576717) of ozanimod 0.92mg/day in RMS. MRI was performed at months 6 (SUNBEAM), 12 (RADIANCE/SUNBEAM), and 24 (RADIANCE), then every 12 months (DAYBREAK). CGMV was analyzed through DAYBREAK month 36.

Results: The rate of CGMV loss was greater ($P<0.001$) with interferon than ozanimod 0.92mg during SUNBEAM/RADIANCE: LS mean percentage change from baseline was -0.67% vs -0.02%, respectively, at month 6 and -1.04% vs -0.16% at month 12 in SUNBEAM, and -0.80% vs -0.13% at month 12 and -1.26% vs -0.53% at month 24 in RADIANCE. Switching from interferon to ozanimod reversed CGMV loss in year 1 of DAYBREAK. Thereafter, annualized rates of CGMV loss were similar among participants who switched from interferon and those continuously treated with ozanimod. Patients continuously treated with ozanimod lost less CGMV in DAYBREAK relative to RADIANCE/SUNBEAM baseline than patients initially treated with interferon.

Conclusion: Switching from interferon to ozanimod reversed CGMV loss. Earlier treatment with ozanimod led to less CGMV loss over 4–5 years, supporting early ozanimod use.

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P39: Sustained attention during prolonged walking in persons with multiple sclerosis

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Background: Growing evidence demonstrates that walking requires cognitive control. It is also known that there is a decrease in walking speed during long-distance walking in persons with multiple sclerosis (pwMS). However, it is unknown whether pwMS can retain sustained attention while performing

simultaneous motor tasks (i.e., walking) in long-distance tests. This study investigated cognitive attention during prolonged walking in pwMS and compared it with healthy controls (HC).

Methods: Thirty-seven pwMS and 14 age-gender matched HC performed the 6-Minute Walk Test (6MWT) with an auditory vigilance task. Participants were provided a letter every 2.5s and were instructed to say “yes” as fast as possible when they heard the two selected letters through the application to assess vigilance. The number of errors, average reaction time, and distance per minute were calculated.

Results: A significant time and group*time interaction effect were found for reactions times, represented by a significant increase in pwMS during the 6 mins. Time or group*time interaction was not found for the number of errors. There was a minute-by-minute decrease in walking distance in both groups, but there was no group*time interaction.

Conclusion: Our findings suggest that sustained attention deteriorated overtime during the six minutes of walking in pwMS.

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The authors did not disclose any links of interest.

P40: Differences on accuracy estimating cognitive performance between multiple sclerosis phenotypes and healthy controls.

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Aim: To compare the accuracy estimating cognitive performance in patients with different multiple sclerosis (MS) phenotypes and healthy controls (HC).

Methods: 54 HC and 112 MS patients (relapsing-remitting MS -RRMS-; n=65 and progressive MS -PMS-; n=47) underwent neuropsychological evaluation and completed the Perceived Deficits Questionnaire (PDQ). Participants were classified as objectively preserved (OP) or impaired (OI) and subjectively preserved (SP) or impaired (SI) according to results on neuropsychological tests and PDQ, respectively. Accurate estimators were those OP and SP or OI and SI. OP but SI patients were considered under estimators and OI but SP over estimators.

Results: Differences in the proportion of OI were found (63.8% in the PMS group versus 32.3% of RRMS and 11.1% of HC, p<0.001) but not in the proportion of SI (p=0.075). Regarding

accuracy, statistically significant (p<0.001) differences were found: PMS had higher ratios of over estimators (34.8% versus 17.2% of RRMS and 3.7% of HC) while the RRMS had more under estimators (20.3% versus 10.9% of PMS and 11.1% of HC).

Conclusion: The progressive group has a greater proportion of cognitive impairment but not of subjective impairment, also has a greater proportion of over estimators. Presence of anosognosia in progressive MS could explain these results.

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The authors did not disclose any links of interest.

P42: Remote Cognitive Testing in Multiple Sclerosis during the COVID-19 Pandemic

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Approximately 43-70% of people living with multiple sclerosis (MS) experience cognitive impairment. This study-within-a-trial (SWAT) takes place within a host trial investigating the feasibility of the Cognitive-Occupation-Based programme for people with MS (COB-MS), a holistic therapy on the management of cognitive symptoms in MS. Reliable remote cognitive testing could provide safer and more convenient care for MS patients, during the COVID-19 pandemic and thereafter. The SWAT examines the reliability of delivering the Brief International Cognitive Assessment for MS (BICAMS) and the Trail-Making Test (TMT) remotely to people to 68 people with MS experiencing cognitive difficulties. Group 1 (N=34) were tested in-person pre-pandemic. Group 2 were tested remotely. No significant differences between virtual and in-person administrations of the CVLT-II and SDMT were detected. BVMT-R scores were significantly higher for virtual administrations, possibly indicating inter-rater differences. Strong positive correlations were found for in-person and virtual scores within Group 1 on the CVLT-II. The findings support the reliability of remote administration of BICAMS and the TMT in people living with MS. Future research with larger samples could investigate performance on BVMT-R with regards to screen size of device used.

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P43: Predicting cognitive impairment in multiple sclerosis: between cognitive reserve and brain volume

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