

## REASONS FOR CHANGING TREATMENT TO ORAL AGENTS IN MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

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### Background:

People with multiple sclerosis (MS) now have oral drugs to choose from to treat the relapsing form of the disease. Aubagio® (teriflunomide) is an oral compound that inhibits the function of specific immune cells that have been implicated in MS. It has been approved for patients with relapsing forms of MS.

### Purpose:

The aim of this study was to analyze changes in relapsing forms of MS treatment from injectable drugs to oral drug Teriflunomide.

### Material and Methods:

Observational retrospective study.

Data were obtained from 20 patients with MS treated with Teriflunomide from January 2016 to June 2016.

We reviewed the medical history to confirm the reason for changing to the new drug: lack of efficacy or adverse effects with the previous therapy, patient preferences for oral drug versus injectable drugs and risk of progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy from natalizumab.

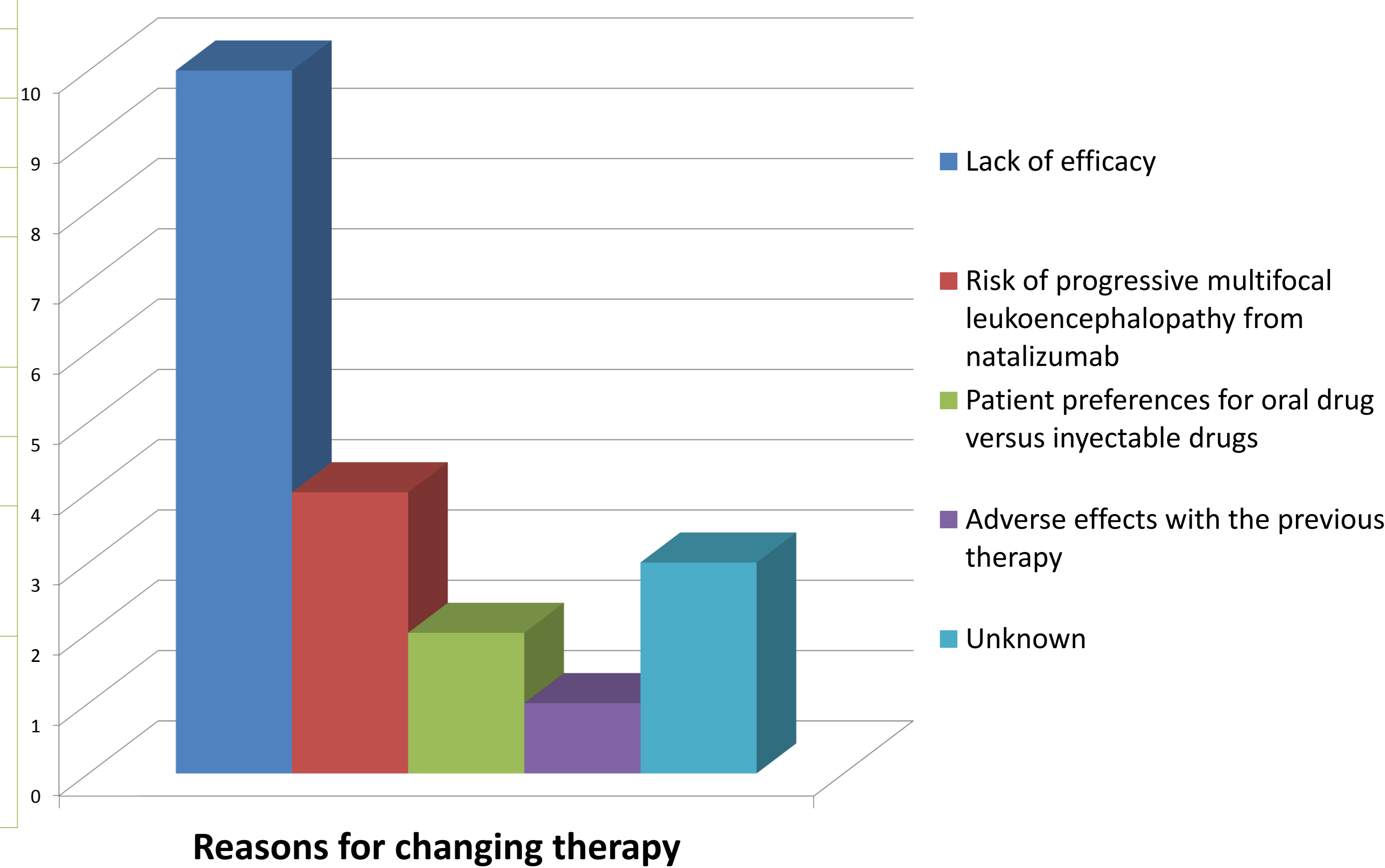
Data collected were: age, gender, previous treatment and reasons for changing.

### Results:

We included 20 patients that started treatment with Teriflunomide.

The 57% were women. The median age was 49±10 (standard deviation) years.

Previous therapies	Patients that received it
Avonex®	1
Rebif®	1
Copaxone®	2
Tysabri®	3
Betaferon®	5
Tysabri® and Betaferon®	1
Betaferon® and copaxone®	1
Betaferon® and avonex	1
Rebif® and Tysabri®	2
Tysabri®, Betaferon® and Rebif®	1
Azathioprine®, Betaferon®, Copaxone® and Tysabri	1



One patient had received therapy from a clinical trial.

### Conclusion:

Emerging oral treatments are ushering in a new era in the treatment of MS, providing not only new treatment options but also new challenges.