

USE OF DIMETHYL FUMARATE IN A TERTIARY HOSPITAL

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BACKGROUND

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a neurological disease chronic and inflammatory in which focal demyelination occurs in central nervous system. Dimethyl fumarate is indicated for the treatment of adult patients with relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis. It's administered orally. The dose is 240 mg twice daily. The seven first days is 120 mg twice daily.

PURPOSE

Our goal is to analyze the profile of patients and the tolerability of dimethyl fumarate.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

A retrospective observational study was constructed from October 2014 to May 2015.

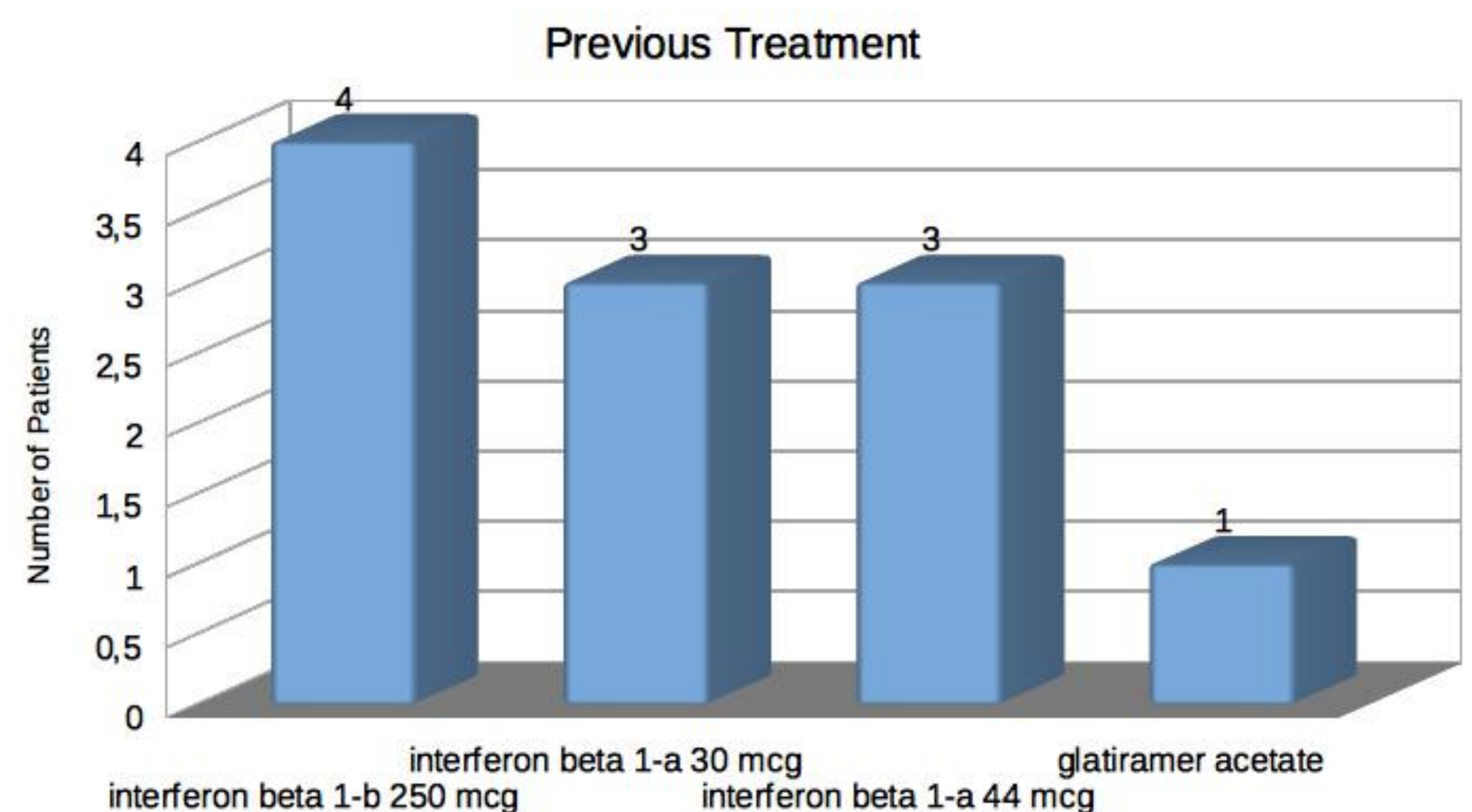
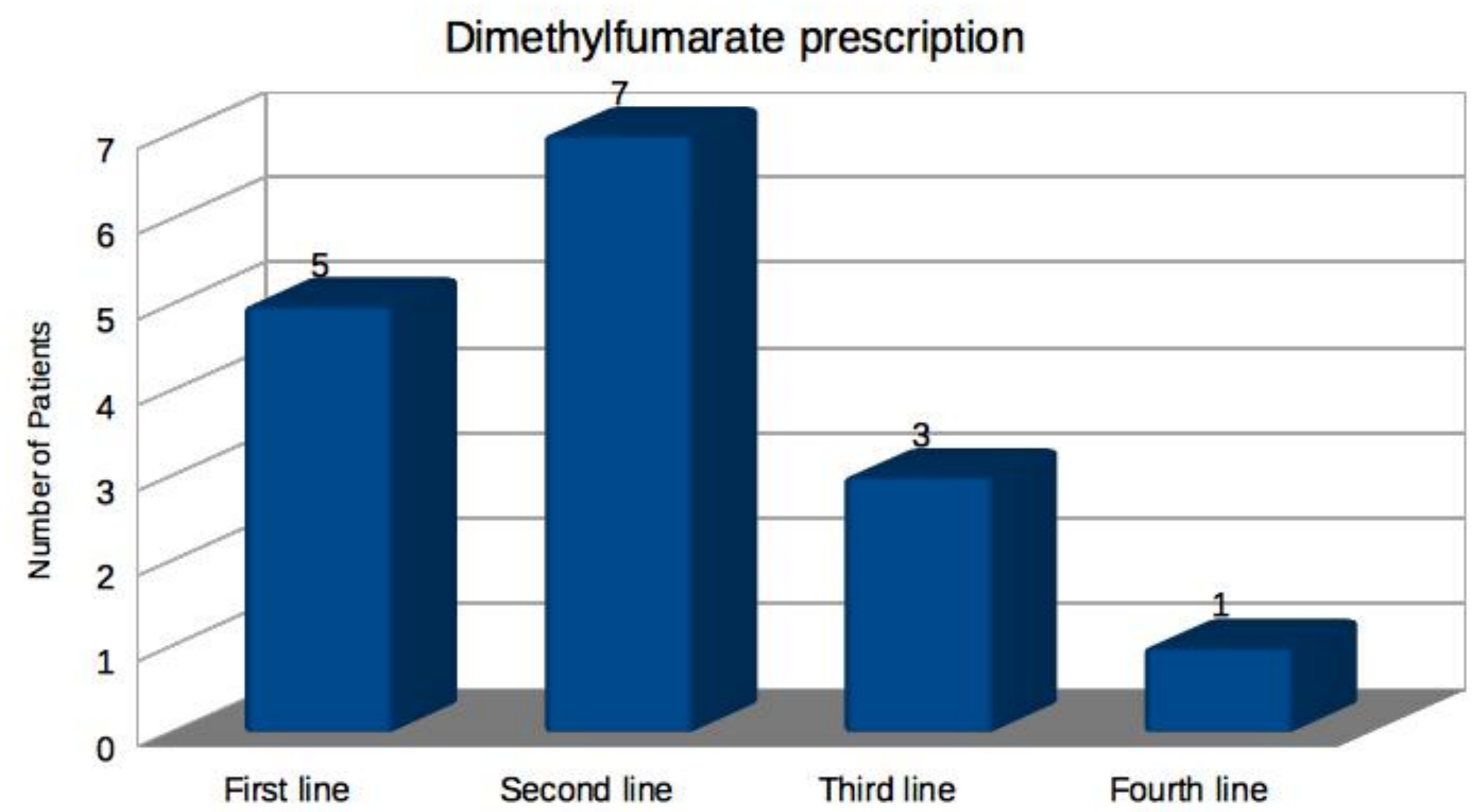
The SAP software was used for medical history, nursing, and recording dispensations of patients treated with dimethyl fumarate. It was recorded: age, sex, EDSS, pretreatment, analytical performed, adverse reactions.

RESULTS

16 patients, 11 women and 5 men, with a mean age of 39.31 years(16-63) were analyzed. The mean EDSS is 2.4(1-4.5).

In all cases, the reason for the change was for pain and skin reactions, flu-like syndrome uncontrolled in two cases, and radiographic progression in one.

All patients analysis was performed to assess renal function, liver and blood count, a month after starting treatment, and at three and six months.



5 (31.25%) patients had mild to moderate at baseline, 1(6.25%) patient experienced flushing elevated liver transaminases more than three times the normal value, and 3(18.75%) patients had major digestive problems, suspending two(12.5%) of them despite starting treatment with gradual descent protocol, doses of 120 mg-0- 120 mg the first week, 120 mg-0-240 mg second and third week, and full-dose 240 mg-0-240 mg from the fourth week, and try to reduce subsequent dose.

The mean duration of treatment with dimethyl fumarate is 4.56 months (2-8).

CONCLUSION

Dimethyl fumarate is well accepted by patients when oral administration despite its side effects (mainly flushing and gastrointestinal effects) that appear at the start of drug treatment.

The adverse reaction profile observed is similar to those described in the product information.