

**A RETROSPECTIVE ANALYSIS IN PATIENTS WITH RELAPSING-REMITTING MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS: RESULTS FROM DATA GATHERED ABOUT MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS IN SLOVAKIA – “MS PROFILE”**

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**INTRODUCTION:** The best-known method for treating MS is first-line disease modifying therapy is DMT, IFN $\beta$ , and glatiramer acetate.

**OBJECTIVE:** To gather data about DMT efficacy from patients who have had RRMS for more than 12 months.

**DESIGN/METHODS:** An analysis from 317 patients at 4 different MS sites in Slovakia.

**RESULTS:** The patients studied had been undergoing DMT for an average of 4.1 years. 15% of the patients had suffered a relapse within the last year. 10% of these patients had seen their EDSS worsen in the last 12 months, with the average EDSS increase being 0.7. MRI data were available for 301 patients. Of the 162 patients from whom data about gadolinium-enhancing lesions could be gathered, 19% of those patients had had at least one gadolinium-enhancing lesion. Of the 178 patients from whom data about the number of T2 lesions could be gathered, at least 9 T2 lesions had been found in 76% of those patients at their most recent MRI tests and the number of T2 lesions recorded in these patients had increased from their previous MRI tests. 40% of the patients surveyed had had their DMT changed at least once over the course of their illness. 21% of the patients surveyed had lost their jobs due to the illness.

**CONCLUSION:** Disease modifying therapy is the best-known method for treating patients with MS. However, approximately 15% of patients who receive this treatment have experienced at least one relapse in the last 12 months.