

## **WORKING ABILITY AND VALUE OF PRODUCTIVITY OF PATIENTS WITH MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS TREATED WITH NATALIZUMAB**

**F. Kreimendahl<sup>1</sup>, R. Rychlik<sup>1</sup>, S. Wiesenmüller<sup>1</sup>, S. Patel<sup>2</sup>, E. Gleißner<sup>2</sup>, V. Becker<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>*Health Economics, Institute of Empirical Health Economics, Germany*

<sup>2</sup>*Market Access, Biogen Idec GmbH, Germany*

<sup>3</sup>*Neurology, Neurological Medical Practice, Germany*

[fabian.kreimendahl@ifeg.de](mailto:fabian.kreimendahl@ifeg.de)

**Objectives:** Relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis (RRMS) is a chronic inflammatory disease that represents the most common neurological disorder in young adults. RRMS often leads to disability and is a major cause of reduced work capacity due to neurological diseases. The aim of this study is to investigate patients' annual work productivity during treatment with natalizumab.

**Methods:** A non-interventional study was performed in Germany, in which RRMS patients treated with natalizumab for a maximum of three months prior to baseline were eligible for study participation. Occupational status, work ability, days absent from work and quality of life were collected by EQ-5D and Visual Analog Scale at baseline, after 6 and after 12 months. The primary endpoint was annual productivity defined as total hours worked per year. Subgroup tests were run to analyse the group of employed patients.

**Results:** The population of patients for the productivity analysis includes all patients with complete documentation and comprises of 96 patients (73.8% female patients, 53.7% were employed at baseline). 70.8% of all patients (68.0% of the employed patients) showed an increase in productivity after 12 months of therapy vs. baseline. The mean increase in productivity for the overall population amounts to 129.9 hours ( $p=0.036$ ).

**Conclusions:** In this study, RRMS patients treated with natalizumab had a statistically significant increase in productivity after 12 months of therapy. This increase in productivity is primarily due to an increase in number of hours worked and a decrease in days absent from work.

*Study was funded by Biogen Idec.*