

Effect of Glatiramer Acetate on Peripheral Blood Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor and Phosphorylated TrkB Levels in Relapsing/Remitting Multiple Sclerosis

Buzoianu Anca Dana², Văcăraș Vitalie^{1,§}, Major Zoltán Zsigmond^{2,§}, Mureșanu Fior Dafin¹, Krausz Ludovic Tibor², Mărginean Ioan¹

¹*Department of Neurosciences, Babeș Street no. 43, University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Iuliu Hațieganu", Cluj-Napoca, Romania*

²*Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Clinical Pharmacology, Pasteur Street no. 6, New building, University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Iuliu Hațieganu", Cluj-Napoca, Romania*

Abstract:

Glatiramer acetate (GA) is one of the most widely used disease-modifying drugs for the treatment of relapsing/remitting multiple sclerosis; is assumed to have inductor effects on neurotrophic factor expression. One of these neurotrophic factor systems is the brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF)/receptor tyrosine kinase B (TrkB) pathway. Peripheral blood is thought to contain soluble BDNF, and some blood cells express TrkB. We attempted to determine whether GA treatment leads to changes in plasma BDNF levels and TrkB activation. Such a phenomenon in relapsing/remitting multiple sclerosis patients is significantly reduced; GA treatment is not influencing peripheral BDNF levels, after one year of sustained therapy, not from the point of view of total free BDNF nor the phosphorylated TrkB.

Keywords: Brain-derived neurotrophic factor, glatiramer acetate, multiple sclerosis, receptor tyrosine kinase B.