Reviewer's report

Title: Patient adherence to and tolerability of self-administered interferon beta-1a using an electronic autoinjection device: a multicentre, open-label, phase IV study

Version: 2 Date: 26 January 2012

Reviewer: Robert Zivadinov

Reviewer's report:

The study assessed short-term adherence to, and tolerability of, IFN-1a administered via electronic autoinjection device in patients with RRMS. was

This 12-week, multicentre, open-label, single-arm, observational, Phase IV study included 119 pts who self-administered IFN #1-a (titrated to 44 µg), subcutaneously (sc), three times weekly, via electronic autoinjection device.

In general this is well written study that was conducted carefully. There are several issues, however that need to be addressed.

1. The authors should discuss in more detail their study design and whether potential alternative study designs were considered (long-term follow-up, placebo-controlled, comparison of autoinjector vs. no injector, etc).
2. The novelty of the study should be emphasized respect to the previous studies that used autoinjector with IFN #1-a. Why is this study worthy publishing and what adds to the literature that we did not learn from already published studies.
3. Were NAbs in previously treated pts with IFN-beta assessed and was adherence related to the NAbs? Did authors look predictivity?

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

No conflict of interest.