Author's response to reviews

Title: Fingolimod (FTY720) therapy in Japanese patients with relapsing multiple sclerosis: over 12-months: results of a phase 2 observational extension study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dr Robert Zivadinov
Editor, BMC Neurology

15 January 2014

Dear Dr Robert Zivadinov,

MS: 7201276049721539
Title: Fingolimod (FTY720) in Japanese patients with relapsing multiple sclerosis: 12-month results of an observational phase 2 extension study

On behalf of all authors, I would like to thank you for reviewing the above manuscript. We have revised this manuscript to address the editor and reviewer comments, and we would like to resubmit the article for publication in the BMC Neurology. Please see below for a list of the comments together with a point-by-point list of all changes made in response.

Editor’s comments:

I request that it is stated in the title of the manuscript that this is observational study; also I request that Abstract conclusion as well one of the manuscript mention that study is observational and that no formal statistics has been conducted due to small sample size.

As requested, the title has been changed to ‘Fingolimod (FTY720) therapy in Japanese patients with relapsing multiple sclerosis over 12-months: results of a phase 2 observational extension.’ Additionally, the abstract and main discussion now specifies the observational nature of the study, and clearly indicates the lack of formal statistical testing due to small sample size.

Reviewer: Tereza Gabelic

Reviewer's report:
Authors described in detail all issues raised and added additional material and description about the study, participants, statistical analysis and made significant changes in study conclusions.

Lack of statistical analysis can now be considered as a minor issue, although performing of statistical analysis would increase the value of overall results.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable
Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

We thank the reviewer for her comments.

Yours Sincerely,

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