Reviewer’s report
Title: Pediatric Multiple Sclerosis: A review

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Reviewer: Banu Anlar

Reviewer's report:

This review unfortunately repeats what has been written many times in various reviews. Pediatric MS data produced out of a few large series in the Western World (North America and Europe), have been reviewed over and over. In order to add to existing knowledge, it would have been much more interesting to compare local and regional series and present a list of areas where data are needed.

Specific remarks:
"The MS course in cases with onset at < 16 years of age is very similar in different populations.(Line 78)" Which populations? Please add references to support this. How different are these populations? For instance, some group of patients, mostly from Italy, showed early cognitive deterioration. This has not been reproduced in all series.
Likewise;

1-early MS being more inflammatory and more aggressive in North America, Italy, it would be useful to underline the need for data from elsewhere. Environmental, infectious, vitamin D, sun exposure conditions vary.

2-Relapses are more frequent in patients with POMS compared with adult-onset MS. (only in some areas of the world)

3-Cognitive impairment is frequent in POMS.
These are supported by only one reference (#3) or references from the same center (#11 and 13)
4-Axonal damage: Ref.#10 is the only study is referred to, whilst more than one imaging studies can and should be added to this assessment especially since biopsied tissues (or patinets) are unlikely to represent early ped-MS in current patients.

The Conclusion contradicts what the manuscript repeated several times: "little evidence (specified as class I in the Introduction), for the effect of DMT in children" There is little data in favor of early DMT slowing disability even for adults (most recent Cochrane review Filippino et al); let alone in children. Line 405 (it is important to start DMT early) is therefore an overstatement, perhaps under the effect of industry's decades-long work.

Please avoid repeating statements (some unfounded)

Minor comments: abstract line 35: missing word.
Line 125: repetition of above
Line 385: symbols are unreadable.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.
Yes

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