TITLE: Care of Patients with Multiple Sclerosis: Guidelines

DATE: 10 February 2012

RESEARCH QUESTION

1. What are the evidence-based guidelines and recommendations for the full spectrum of care of patients with multiple sclerosis?

KEY MESSAGE

Extensive evidence for the full spectrum of care of patients with multiple sclerosis was identified. Numerous treatment options exist for the different forms of multiple sclerosis and its associated co-morbidities. Limited evidence was identified pertaining to evidence-based guidelines and recommendations.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including PubMed, The Cochrane Library (2012, Issue 1), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, Canadian and abbreviated list of major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. Filters were applied to limit the retrieval by health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses and guidelines. The search was also limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2007 and January 30, 2012. Internet links were provided, where available.

RESULTS

Rapid Response reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by evidence-based guidelines.

Two health technology assessments, forty-six systematic reviews, and two evidence-based guidelines and recommendations were identified regarding the full spectrum of care of patients with multiple sclerosis. Additional references of potential interest are provided in the appendix.

Disclaimer: The Rapid Response Service is an information service for those involved in planning and providing health care in Canada. Rapid responses are based on a limited literature search and are not comprehensive, systematic reviews. The intent is to provide a list of sources of the best evidence on the topic that CADTH could identify using all reasonable efforts within the time allowed. Rapid responses should be considered along with other types of information and health care considerations. The information included in this response is not intended to replace professional medical advice, nor should it be construed as a recommendation for or against the use of a particular health technology. Readers are also cautioned that a lack of good quality evidence does not necessarily mean a lack of effectiveness particularly in the case of new and emerging health technologies, for which little information can be found, but which may in future prove to be effective. While CADTH has taken care in the preparation of the report to ensure that its contents are accurate, complete and up to date, CADTH does not make any guarantee to that effect. CADTH is not liable for any loss or damages resulting from use of the information in the report.

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Health Technology Assessments

**Diagnosis**

1. Achten E, Deblaere K. Health technology assessment on the use of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and computed tomography (CT) in the diagnosis of multiple sclerosis (MS) and clinically isolated syndromes (CIS). Eur J Radiol. 2008 Feb;65(2):211-3. PubMed: PM18164571

**Treatment**


**Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses**

**Diagnosis**


**Treatment**


   PubMed: PM19961570

   PubMed: PM21733201

   PubMed: PM19160231

   PubMed: PM18948413

   PubMed: PM18254098

   PubMed: PM18425915

   PubMed: PM18315820

   PubMed: PM18581662

   PubMed: PM18392405

   PubMed: PM17881388

   PubMed: PM17943809
PubMed: PM17253500

PubMed: PM17257464

PubMed: PM17443610

PubMed: PM17253481

PubMed: PM17253537

PubMed: PM19454107

PubMed: PM17253480

Guidelines and Recommendations


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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Reviews and Recommendations (methodology not specified)


CADTH reports

73. Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health (CADTH). Investigating chronic cerebrospinal venous insufficiency for the treatment of multiple sclerosis (environmental scan) [Internet]. Ottawa: CADTH; 2010 [cited 2012 Feb 09]. Available from: http://www.cadth.ca/media/pdf/Chronic_Cerebrospinal_Venous_Insufficiency_MS_es-15_e.pdf Updated version: http://www.cadth.ca/media/pdf/MS_Liberation_Update_es-20_e.pdf