**Best supportive care for patients with PPMS prior to ocrelizumab: RETRO PPMS final results (77 Characters, 83 Max)**

**Short title (39 Characters; 45 Max)**

*Supportive care for PPMS prior to ocrelizumab*

**Herbert Schreiber1, Iris-Katharina Penner2,, Cornelia Cooper3\*, Tanja Maier3, Stefanie Hieke-Schulz3, Jost Leemhuis3, Tjalf Ziemssen4**

*1Neurologische Gemeinschaftspraxis & Neuropoint Akademie, Ulm, Deutschland; 2Department of Neurology, Inselspital, Bern University Hospital, University of Bern, Switzerland; 3Roche Pharma AG, Grenzach-Wyhlen, Deutschland; 4Klinik und Poliklinik für Neurologie, Universitätsklinikum Carl Gustav Carus, Dresden, Deutschland*

\*Presenting author

**Background:**

Prior to the availability of ocrelizumab as the first disease-modifying treatment (DMT) for primary progressive multiple sclerosis (PPMS) in Europe, management focused on symptomatic treatment and non-evidence-based use of DMTs.

**Objectives:** RETRO PPMS (ML39631) retrospectively investigated best supportive care (BSC) in clinical practice in patients with PPMS in Germany.

**Methods:** RETRO PPMS was a multicentre, secondary data use, retrospective, non-interventional study. Adults with PPMS according to McDonald 2010 criteria were included. Retrospective data collection started on July 19, 2018. Medical history, disease status and treatments were assessed from 12-month periods prior to PPMS diagnosis. Acute measures, including BSC parameters and rehabilitation, were assessed from the last 2 years, and pharmacoeconomic data from the last 3 months prior to study start. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics with 95% confidence intervals. Primary endpoint analyses examined the frequency of BSC measures for PPMS symptom relief.

**Results:** The final analysis included 462 patients; one patient was excluded due to failure to meet McDonald 2010 criteria. The mean±SD age was 57.4±10.9 years, and 55.8% of the patients were female. The most frequently reported PPMS symptom was muscle spasticity (60.8% of patients), which was treated in 73.0% of affected patients, most often with baclofen (32.4%). The most common non-medicinal treatment was physical/occupational therapy. The three most common symptomatic medications were fampridine, baclofen and cannabinoids. 47.2% of patients received an off-label treatment, most commonly cortisone (32.9% of patients).

**Conclusions:** Prior to the advent of ocrelizumab, only symptomatic therapies unable to slow progression were available for PPMS treatment. RETRO PPMS provides valuable real-world data on epidemiology and individual patterns of care for patients with PPMS in Germany prior to ocrelizumab treatment.

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