Neurology and Therapy

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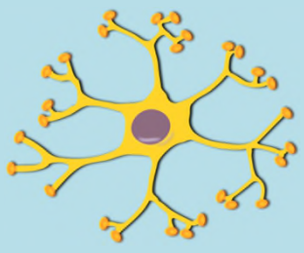
Real-World Safety and Effectiveness of Dimethyl Fumarate in Black or African American Patients with Multiple Sclerosis: 3-Year Results from ESTEEM

Williams, M.J., Amezcua, L., Okai, A. *et al.* Real-World Safety and Effectiveness of Dimethyl Fumarate in Black or African American Patients with Multiple Sclerosis: 3-Year Results from ESTEEM. *Neurol Ther* (2020). https://doi.org/10.1007/s40120-020-00193-5

Study Location

Majority of subgroup from US

Indication



Relapsing forms of Multiple Sclerosis

Therapy

Dimethyl Fumarate

Study Design

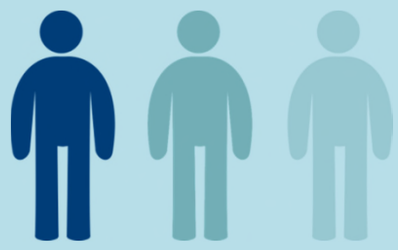
Observational

Eligibility Criteria

Patients with MS who had been newly prescribed DMF in routine practice.

Study Population

4897 non-black/non-AA and 187 black/AA patients who received at least 1 dose of DMF were analyzed.



Why this study was carried out.

The oral MS therapy DMF has demonstrated clinically meaningful, sustained efficacy and a favorable benefit–risk profile in patients with relapsing forms of MS.

ESTEEM is an ongoing, 5-year, multinational, prospective study evaluating the long-term safety and effectiveness of DMF in patients with MS.

Black or AA patients with MS are reported to exhibit greater disease severity compared with non-black/non-AA patients.

MS clinical trials have included low numbers of non-white patients. This interim analysis from ESTEEM evaluated real-world safety and effectiveness of DMF in the largest subgroup of DMF-treated black/AA patients studied to date.

What was learned from the study?

The safety profile of DMF in black/AA patients was consistent with that in the non-black/non-AA ESTEEM population, although the lymphocyte decrease was less pronounced in black/AA patients.

Relapse rates remained low in black/AA patients, consistent with non-black/non-AA patients.

Overall, these analyses demonstrate the real-world treatment benefit of DMF in black/AA patients, consistent with findings in the overall ESTEEM population.

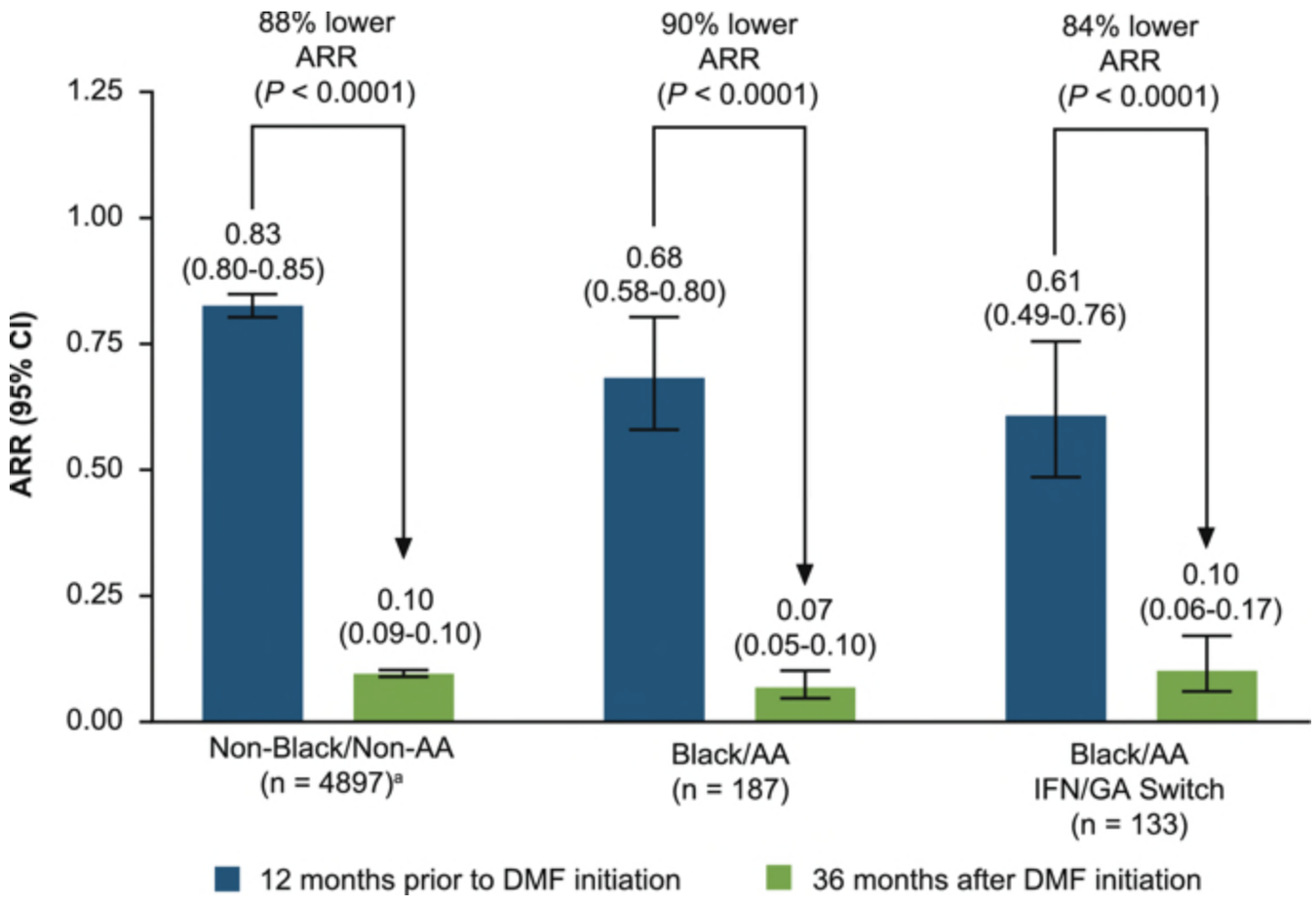


Figure 1: ARR in the 12 months before and 36 months after DMF initiation for the non-black/non-AA population, the black/AA cohort, and the black/AA IFN/GA switch subgroup.

Abbreviations: African American (AA); Annualized relapse rate (ARR); Glatiramer acetate (GA); Interferon (IFN); Dimethyl fumarate (DMF); Multiple sclerosis (MS).