



DRUG REVIEW



May 2021

MAYZENT™ - A new treatment for secondary progressive multiple sclerosis

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is an autoimmune disease that affects the brain and spinal cord. MS is characterized by damage to myelin, a substance which protects nerves and improves signaling between nerve cells. This results in inflammation, leading to severe disability and an increasing loss of physical and cognitive function. Secondary progressive MS (SPMS) is a subtype of MS characterized by sustained progression of disability. Patients with SPMS experience more impairment and report lower health-related quality of life than patients with other subtypes of MS.

The prevalence of SPMS in Canada is 18 people per 100,000. The only drugs approved for the treatment of SPMS in Canada are interferons, such as Avonex®, Betaseron®, Extavia® and Rebif®. Canadian patients with SPMS are typically treated with an interferon or other MS drugs not approved for the treatment of SPMS in Canada. Mayzent™ represents a new Health Canada approved treatment option with proven efficacy to slow the progression of SPMS.

Mayzent™ works by preventing the activation and release of harmful immune cells in the brain, reducing disease-related inflammation and delaying the progression of physical disability.

In a clinical trial, Mayzent™ reduced progression of disability and improved cognitive processing speed.

The annual cost of treatment of approximately \$32,600 makes Mayzent™ more expensive than the interferons which are approved for the treatment of SPMS in Canada. For this reason, it is recommended that Mayzent™ be placed under Special Authorization for ClaimSecure groups subscribing to Managed Plans, to ensure that Mayzent™ is reserved for patients that have tried or are intolerant to more cost-effective alternatives. Mayzent™ will be fully covered for groups subscribing to open formularies.

Drug Name	Mayzent™
Drug Ingredients	Siponimod
Annual Cost	\$32,600
Coverage Details	Special Authorization for Managed Formularies. Fully covered for Open Formularies.

ClaimSecure Inc. reserves the right to amend in part, or in its entirety, its Special Authorization guidelines.

References:

1. Mayzent™ Product Monograph. Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc. December 2018.
2. Kappos, Ludwig, et al. "Siponimod versus placebo in secondary progressive multiple sclerosis (EXPAND): a double-blind, randomised, phase 3 study" *The Lancet* 391.10127 (2018): 1263-1273.

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