

Title	Rituximab: Treatment of Autoimmune Neurological Disorders
Agency	MaHTAS, Health Technology Assessment Section, Medical Development Division, Ministry of Health Malaysia Level 4, Block E1, Parcel E, Presint 1, Federal Government Administrative Center, 62590 Putrajaya, Malaysia Tel: +603 88831229, Fax: +603 88831230; htamalaysia@moh.gov.my, www.moh.gov.my
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Aim

To assess the efficacy / effectiveness, safety and cost-effectiveness of rituximab for treatment of autoimmune neurological disorders such as myasthenia gravis (MG), neuromyelitis optica (NMO), multiple sclerosis (MS) and opsoclonus-myoclonus syndrome (OMS).

Conclusions and results

There was limited fair level of evidence retrieved to show that rituximab was effective and safe in treatment of autoimmune neurological disorders (MG, NMO, MS and OMS). However there were adverse events reported. No cost-effectiveness study on rituximab in the treatment of autoimmune neurological disorder was retrieved.

Methods

Electronic databases were searched through the MEDLINE(R) In-process and other Non-Indexed Citations and Ovid MEDLINE (R) 1948 to present, EBM Reviews - Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials-4th Quarter 2010 and EBM Reviews - Health Technology Assessment - 4th Quarter 2010. Other databases were PubMed, National Horizon Scanning and FDA website. Besides that, additional articles from bibliographies of retrieved articles and requestor lists were also included. No limits were applied to the search. Relevant articles were critically appraised using the Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP) and the studies were graded according to US/Canadian Preventive Services Task Force (Harris 2001).

Further research/reviews required

More clinical trials are warranted. Since, serious adverse events have been reported; the use of this drug should be monitored closely by the treating physician.

Written by

Maharita AB, MaHTAS, Malaysia