

Contact Us Toll Free at 1.866.208.3430

## Drug Therapy Expectations in MS

### ***Education***

Recent years have provided advances in medication therapies for multiple sclerosis (MS). These gains have helped patients live life to the fullest despite MS.

MS lasts the entirety of a patient's life, but MS medication therapies are helping patients now and will be for years to come. Here is some important information about MS medication therapies that you should know.

### ***How MS Drugs Help***

Unfortunately there is no cure for MS, but it's been proven that patients who receive MS drug therapy do better than those who do not. Here is how drug therapy helps:

- Decrease the number of relapses going forward
- Decrease the severity of symptoms in an attack
- May slow the progression of the increase in severity of baseline disease symptoms
- Decrease the damage to the nervous system in the long run

### ***Things to Know When Starting Drug Therapy***

Early treatment is important in MS as symptoms tend to get worse over time. Knowing what to expect will help you get the most benefit from your therapy.

First, you will not feel better. The existing damage to nerves cannot be repaired. The goal of therapy is to reduce the number of attacks, reduce the severity of the attacks, and slow the progression of MS.

Most current MS therapies require an injection. This can seem like a problem at first but it gets easier with time. Today there are many thousands of MS patients who give themselves injections. Detailed instruction in how to give yourself an injection will be provided. Your team of health professionals will be available to support you as you learn. Eventually taking the medication will become just another part of your daily routine.

Like all medications, MS drugs come with possible side effects. Some may go away with time. Doctors usually start patients at a low dose and increase it slowly. Doing so can help to reduce side effects. If you experience a side effect you should let a health professional know in a timely manner. There are ways they can help to make living with the medication easier.

### ***Taking Charge of MS***

It is important to regularly keep an open line of communication between yourself and your health care providers. Talk openly with them and get all of your questions answered.

Initiating drug therapy early provides an opportunity to treat the disease before it gets worse.

Taking your medication consistently puts you in control of your MS.

**For questions or concerns regarding any of the above statements or recommendations, please feel free to contact Diplomat Specialty Pharmacy Toll Free at 1.866.208.3430.**