

Mandell Center Medication Protocol: Plegridy (peg interferon beta -1a)

Indications and Usage:

- For relapsing forms of Multiple Sclerosis (MS) to include clinically isolated syndrome, relapsing-remitting disease, and active secondary progressive disease, in adults

Prior to initiating Plegridy, the following are required:

Labwork:

- CBC with differential
- Liver Profile
- TSH with reflex

Imaging:

- MRI (with or without contrast)- baseline prior to initiating
- *For patients transitioning from Tysabri, MRI brain with and without contrast to be performed for JCV positive patients upon discontinuing Tysabri and at 6 months after discontinuing Tysabri.
- MRI Brain (with or without contrast) to be performed at provider discretion for patients with progressive forms of MS.

Vaccinations: no recommendations

Contraception:

- Pregnancy Category C- Use only if potential benefit justifies potential risk to fetus.

Dosing:

- Recommended dose is 125 mcg (0.5ml) Subcutaneously or Intramuscularly every 14 days
- Dose Titration required:
 - Dose 1- Day 1 – 63 mcg (Orange pen or syringe label SQ) (Yellow clip IM)
 - Dose 2- Day 15- 94 mcg (Blue pen or syringe label SQ) (Purple clip IM)
 - Dose 3- Day 29 and every 14 days thereafter – 125 mcg (full dose) (grey pen)

Administration:

- Store in refrigerator (36-46 degrees F). Allow to warm to room temperature for 30 minutes prior to injection.
- Rotate SQ sites: abdomen, back of upper arm, and thigh. Do not inject into skin that is irritated, red, bruised, infected or scarred.
- Rotate IM sites: left and right thighs

Delayed or Missed Doses:

- Take the missed dose as soon as you remember. But if it's within a few days before your next scheduled dose, talk with your doctor or pharmacist about the best time to take your dose.
- Never take more than one dose of Plegridy within a 7-day period to make up for a missed dose.

Management of Medication Reaction/ Side Effects:

- Most common side effects: flu-like symptoms-headache, muscle and joint aches, fever, chills or tiredness.
- You can manage these by taking OTC pain and fever reducers and drinking plenty of water. These symptoms lessen or go away over time.
- Prophylactic and concurrent use of analgesics and /or antipyretics may prevent or ameliorate flu-like symptoms.
- Adverse reactions may include depression or suicidal ideation. Report these symptoms to your provider immediately.
- Injection site reactions- report break in the skin associated with blue-black discoloration, swelling, or drainage of fluid from site.

Follow-up and Monitoring:

- Initial follow up with provider in 3 months, then every 6 months.

Labwork:

- Liver Profile every 3 months initially
- CBC with differential and Liver Profile every 6 months
- TSH w reflex yearly

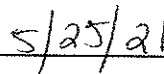
Imaging:

- Follow-up MRI Brain with and without contrast 6 months after initiation of therapy
- Annual MRI Brain and C-Spine without contrast (or per provider discretion)



Dr. Mary A. Bailey, Regional Director

Mandell Multiple Sclerosis Center



Date

Reference: Plegridy PI revision 1/2021

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