MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS in Czech Republic

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What is Multiple Sclerosis

Central nervous system (brain and spinal cord)

Myelin sheath of healthy nerve

Axon

In multiple sclerosis, the myelin sheath, which is a covering that wraps around the axon, is destroyed with inflammation and scarring.
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS in CZ

Prevalence 170 :100 000
~ 17 000 people with MS

Incidence 11:100 000
~ 800-1000 newly diagnosed each year
Natural Progression of MS

- CIS
- MRI progression
- TIME (yrs)

DISABILITY

Relapses
Do we have treatment options?

- Interferons - since 1996
  - Avonex, Betaferon, Rebif, Extavia
- Glatiramer acetate (Copaxone)
- Natalizumab (Tysabri)
Goals in MS

- Diagnose early
- Treat early

- Waiting lists to get treatment
- Delay in approval of new treatments
- Criteria limiting who can get treatment are more strict than elsewhere
UNTIL 2005

Sickness fund

- Pharmaceutical company A
- Pharmaceutical company B
- Pharmaceutical company C

- 18% yearly budget increase
- Centralized price negotiation
SINCE 2006

- Pharmaceutical company A
- Pharmaceutical company B
- Pharmaceutical company C

- 5% yearly budget increase
- Price per hospital
- => untreated patients
Year 2011

• NO budget increase since 2010
⇒ More untreated patients

Pharmaceutical company A
Pharmaceutical company B
Pharmaceutical company C
Year 2012

• 2011 – further restriction => waiting lists
• We asked EMSP for help →
• Oct 24, 2011: First round table organized in Czech Parliament
  • No deputy from Ministry of Health attended
  • No reply to questions for Minister of Health

Budget calculated for treatment is not based upon the number of treated patients + incidence / year
Consequences of a delayed treatment
How to stop disability progression
Economical consequences of MS

Cost of MS 900 pts, Prague

• In early MS: € €
  – Cost of treatment

• In later MS: € € € €
  – Cost of early retirement – the main cost
  – Cost of hospital inpatient care, outpatient care, support services, rehabilitation

54% of patients with MS maintained employment!

Multiple Sclerosis Journal (Sep 2011): Blahova-Dusankova J et al.:
Cost of MS in Czech Republic: the COMS Study.
Cost of MS in Czech Republic

Mean annual costs per patient

2011 Blahova Dusankova
This is me

- I was diagnosed with MS
- I am on a wait list for treatment!
- Delay in treatment = disability

- Disability can be prevented with early treatment.

I do not have to become disabled and dependent
We need your support

- It is a standard of care in Europe to treat Multiple Sclerosis since the time of diagnosis and to use the most effective medications to prevent disability.

Why is it acceptable to delay treatment of MS in the Czech Republic?
Thank you.
WE HOPE FOR YOUR ACTION

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