

Plant City MS

MS disease-modifying medication overview

Printable review guide for conversations with your neurologist, pharmacist, and care team.

Information for better conversations?not instructions for treatment.

This table cannot show every side effect, contraindication, interaction, monitoring requirement, or warning. Do not start, stop, delay, or change an MS medication based on this page. Use it to identify questions, then review the current FDA-approved prescribing information with your neurologist, pharmacist, and care team.

1. Interferon beta-1a or beta-1b / Avonex, Betaseron, Extavia, Plegridy, Rebif

How Taken: Self-injection

Classification: Interferon; immunomodulator

Potential Common Effects: Flu-like symptoms, injection reactions, headache, abnormal liver or blood tests

Important Warnings To Discuss: Liver injury, reduced blood counts, depression or suicidal thoughts, seizures, heart problems; laboratory monitoring may be required

2. Glatiramer acetate / Copaxone, Glatopa and generics

How Taken: Self-injection

Classification: Synthetic immune-modulating polypeptide

Potential Common Effects: Injection-site pain or redness, flushing, rash, nausea

Important Warnings To Discuss: Immediate post-injection reaction, chest pain, loss of fatty tissue at injection sites, rare liver injury

3. Teriflunomide / Aubagio and generics

How Taken: Oral

Classification: Pyrimidine-synthesis inhibitor

Potential Common Effects: Headache, diarrhea, nausea, hair thinning, increased liver enzymes

Important Warnings To Discuss: Boxed warnings for severe liver injury and embryo-fetal toxicity; infection, blood pressure and blood-count concerns

4. Dimethyl, diroximel or monomethyl fumarate / Tecfidera, Vumerity, Bafiertam and generics

How Taken: Oral

Classification: Fumarate pathway modulator

Potential Common Effects: Flushing, abdominal discomfort, diarrhea, nausea, rash

Important Warnings To Discuss: Low lymphocyte counts, serious infection, PML, liver injury, severe allergic reaction; blood monitoring is important

5. Fingolimod / Gilenya, Tascenso ODT and generics

How Taken: Oral

Classification: S1P receptor modulator

Potential Common Effects: Headache, respiratory infection, diarrhea, liver-test changes, back pain

Important Warnings To Discuss: Slow heart rate after first dose, infection, macular edema, liver injury, fetal harm, skin cancer, PML and severe rebound after stopping

6. Siponimod / Mayzent and generics

How Taken: Oral

Classification: S1P receptor modulator

Potential Common Effects: Headache, high blood pressure, liver-test changes

Important Warnings To Discuss: Genetic testing before use, slow heart rate, infection, macular edema, liver injury, fetal harm and worsening after stopping

7. Ponesimod / Ponvory

How Taken: Oral

Classification: S1P receptor modulator

Potential Common Effects: Respiratory infection, liver-test changes, high blood pressure

Important Warnings To Discuss: Slow heart rate, infection, macular edema, breathing effects, liver injury, fetal harm and worsening after stopping

8. Ozanimod / Zeposia

How Taken: Oral

Classification: S1P receptor modulator

Potential Common Effects: Respiratory infection, liver-test changes, headache, high blood pressure

Important Warnings To Discuss: Slow heart rate, infection, macular edema, liver injury, fetal harm, drug interactions, PML and rebound after stopping

9. Cladribine / Mavenclad

How Taken: Oral treatment courses

Classification: Purine antimetabolite; immune reconstitution therapy

Potential Common Effects: Headache, respiratory infection, low lymphocyte counts

Important Warnings To Discuss: Boxed warnings for malignancy and fetal harm; serious infection, shingles, blood-count and liver concerns

10. Ofatumumab / Kesimpta

How Taken: Self-injection

Classification: Anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody

Potential Common Effects: Injection reactions, headache, respiratory or urinary infection

Important Warnings To Discuss: Serious infection, hepatitis B reactivation, low immunoglobulins, vaccine considerations, PML and liver injury

11. Ocrelizumab / Ocrevus, Ocrevus Zunovo

How Taken: IV infusion or clinic-administered under-skin injection

Classification: Anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody

Potential Common Effects: Infusion or injection reactions, respiratory infection, headache

Important Warnings To Discuss: Serious infection, hepatitis B reactivation, low immunoglobulins, vaccine considerations, PML, liver injury and possible malignancy risk

12. Ublituximab-xiyy / Briumvi

How Taken: IV infusion

Classification: Anti-CD20 monoclonal antibody

Potential Common Effects: Infusion reactions, respiratory infection, headache, fever

Important Warnings To Discuss: Serious infection, hepatitis B reactivation, low immunoglobulins, vaccine considerations, PML and liver injury

13. Natalizumab or natalizumab-sztn / Tysabri, Tyruko

How Taken: IV infusion

Classification: Alpha-4 integrin monoclonal antibody

Potential Common Effects: Headache, fatigue, joint discomfort, infection, infusion reaction

Important Warnings To Discuss: Boxed warning for PML; herpes infections, liver injury, allergic reaction and disease activity after stopping; specialized monitoring program

14. Alemtuzumab / Lemtrada

How Taken: IV infusion courses

Classification: Anti-CD52 monoclonal antibody; immune reconstitution therapy

Potential Common Effects: Rash, headache, fever, nausea, infection and infusion reactions

Important Warnings To Discuss: Boxed warnings for serious autoimmunity, infusion reactions, stroke and malignancy; serious infection; extensive long-term laboratory monitoring