

## How DMDs are administered

	Immunomodulators					Selective adhesion molecule (SAM) inhibitor	Sphingosine 1-phosphate receptor (S1PR) modulator (Immunosuppressant)
Administration	Avonex® (interferon beta-1a) <sup>1</sup>	Rebif® (interferon beta-1a) <sup>2</sup>	Betaseron® (interferon beta-1b) <sup>3</sup>	Extavia® (interferon beta-1b) <sup>4</sup>	Copaxone® (glatiramer acetate) <sup>5</sup>	Tysabri® (natalizumab) <sup>6*</sup>	Gilenya® (fingolimod) <sup>7*</sup>
Route of administration	Intramuscular injection (into the muscle)	Subcutaneous injection (just under the skin)	Subcutaneous injection (just under the skin)	Subcutaneous injection (just under the skin)	Subcutaneous injection (just under the skin)	IV infusion by a healthcare professional†	Oral capsule‡
Frequency of injections	1 time/week	3 times/week	Every other day (3–4 times/week)	Every other day (3–4 times/week)	Daily (7 times/week)	Every 4 weeks	N/A, one capsule once a day
Needle gauge (G) (the higher the gauge, the thinner the needle)	23G (25G needle can be substituted)	29G or 30G	30G	27G	29G	N/A (IV infusion)	N/A (Oral capsule)
Needle length	1 ¼ inch, 1 inch, ¾ inch	½ inch	½ inch	½ inch	½ inch	N/A (IV infusion)	N/A (Oral capsule)
Autoinjector available	Avonex® Pen	RebiSmart™ / Rebiject II™	Betaject® Lite, Betaject® Comfort	Extavia Autoinjector™ II	Autoject® 2	No	N/A (Oral capsule)
Pre-mixed medication	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	N/A (Oral capsule)
Patient support program							
	MS Alliance™ program 1-888-456-2263	Multiple Support Program 1-888-677-3243	Betaplus™ 1-800-977-2770	Extracare™ 1-888-557-5050	Shared Solutions® 1-800-283-0034	Tysabri Care Program 1-888-827-2827	Go Program 1-855-737-6725

\*Natalizumab or fingolimod is generally recommended for MS patients who have had an inadequate response to, or are unable to tolerate, other MS therapies.

†Must be administered by a healthcare professional at a certified infusion clinic; medication is infused over 1 hour and individual must be observed for 1 hour after the infusion is complete.

‡Because of the effects of fingolimod on the heart, the doctor may check the heart of the patient before they start fingolimod. The patient will need to stay at the doctor's office or clinic for at least 6 hours after taking the first dose of fingolimod so that their heart rate can be checked.

At no time should the information presented replace or supersede the recommendations of your own physician. If you have any concerns, please take the information or questions to your physician.

### References:

1. Avonex® Product Monograph. Biogen Idec Canada Inc. April 2011.
2. Rebif® Product Monograph. EMD Serono Canada Inc. May 2011.
3. Betaseron® Product Monograph. Bayer Canada Inc. December 2009.
4. Extavia® Product Monograph, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc. December 2010.
5. Copaxone® Product Monograph. Teva Neuroscience. April 2009.
6. Tysabri® Product Monograph. Biogen Idec Canada Inc. November 2010.
7. Gilenya® Product Monograph. Novartis Pharmaceuticals Canada Inc. March 2011.

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