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Socorro King | Multifocal Motor Neuropathy

Dear Dominick,

While there are over one hundred different types of neuropathy the NAF has focused our education and awareness quite heavily over the years on Multifocal Motor Neuropathy (MMN). Why MMN? Easy! MMN occurs in approximately 1 in 100,000 people. Early and accurate diagnosis of MMN can mean the difference between MMN patients being successfully managed or permanently disabled. Some highlights of the NAF's efforts include:

- A nationwide campaign raising MMN awareness and facilitating a dialogue on the value of early diagnosis and available treatments via the creation of a MMN brochure and a 60 second MMN Public Service Announcement (PSA). The PSA aired in 74 total cities in 30 states and currently has nearly 50,000 views on YouTube.
- Results from the first ever international MMN Quality of Life (QOL) Patient Survey. The survey focused on three primary areas: timely and accurate diagnosis, efficacy of treatment, and the impact of the disease on patient's quality of life.
- A targeted digital advocacy campaign in to increase awareness of MMN among three key audiences: patients living with neuropathy who know it; patients living with neuropathy who don't know it; and practitioners in the field. The campaign generated 1,153,057 impressions and 67,098 clicks to the NAF website. The campaign has more than doubled the amount of MMN patients in NAF database.
- Conducted a Digital Army and Email List Acquisition Campaign focusing on MMN. The MMN campaign generated nearly 6,000 new users to the NAF database. The campaign reached over 160,000 unique people and generated nearly 360,000 impressions. The campaign also generated 2,153 new Facebook followers and 335 new Twitter followers.

Through email responses and online forms over 100 patients submitted their stories to the NAF. The NAF identified three absolutely amazing individuals who agreed to share their personal journeys

with MMN on video. Please take some time to watch the following three inspiring MMN patient stories.

Deborah Zirpolo - <https://youtu.be/dd1iV8UOFHs>

Socorro King - <https://youtu.be/YJgWv9nWpK4>

Andy Klee - <https://youtu.be/dglaVtq0UA0>

Science Shows Ancient Healing Practices Can Improve Quality of Life for Neuropathy Patients

Author: Dr. Joshua Park, DSOM, L.Ac

With a long track record of safety and effectiveness, acupuncture is becoming the pain relief method of choice in America and around the world, especially when the pain has become chronic.

Acupuncture has been practiced for thousands of years in East Asia, and in addition to these millennia of tradition, it now has decades of modern scientific research backing its use in the treatment of neuropathy.

Treatment with acupuncture consists of stimulating nerve rich areas of the skin with fine, sterile needles.

This has the effect of activating a systemic healing response within the body, releasing pain-killing neurotransmitters, reducing inflammation, improving blood flow to the peripheral nerves, and stimulating growth of new nerve tissue.

By stopping pain, reducing inflammation, improving blood flow, and helping damaged nerves heal, acupuncture can be an effective solution to the numbness, tingling, and pain that accompany neuropathy.

There is a large and growing body of evidence demonstrating the successful application of acupuncture in the treatment of many kinds of neuropathy. For example:

- A systematic review and meta-analysis of 22 randomized controlled trials published in 2017 found that acupuncture significantly reduces pain and improves sensory function in most forms of neuropathic pain, including diabetic peripheral neuropathy.
- A study published in 2022 in the Journal of Phytomedicine found that acupuncture can be an effective treatment for chemotherapy induced Peripheral Neuropathy (CIPN). The study involved 60 participants with CIPN, who were randomly assigned to either an acupuncture group or a waiting list control group. The researchers found that the acupuncture group had significant improvements in nerve conduction velocity, sensory nerve function, and overall quality of life compared to the control group.,
- A 2023 randomized controlled trial published in the Journal of Clinical Medicine found that acupuncture led to a significant and lasting reduction in diabetic peripheral neuropathy pain, and major improvements in patient quality of life.

In East Asia, acupuncture's effectiveness in treating neuropathy is further enhanced by combining it with botanical medicine.

In 2016, a study published in the journal *Neural Regeneration Research* showed that a combination of five botanicals was able to greatly reduce diabetic peripheral neuropathy pain and improve nerve conduction velocity. This combination of botanicals has been used for over two thousand years to treat diabetic peripheral neuropathy in China, Korea, Japan and Vietnam.

Like any medical intervention, acupuncture and botanical medicine may not work for everyone, but if you are still experiencing symptoms even with medication, the latest research suggests you should consider adding a licensed acupuncturist to your healthcare team.

I am a licensed acupuncturist practicing at Empowered You Acupuncture, an integrative clinic in Orange County, California that specializes in treating neuropathy with acupuncture and botanical medicine. We have made it our mission to combine these ancient healing traditions with cutting edge science to empower people like you to experience a better quality of life.

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Bio

Dr. Joshua Park, DSOM, L.Ac is a doctor of East Asian Medicine and licensed acupuncturist practicing in Orange County, California. Dr. Park specializes in the treatment of neuropathies and other chronic neurological conditions. For more information about his practice, please visit www.empoweredyouacupuncture.com.

U.S. FDA Approves Takeda's HYQVIA® as Maintenance Therapy

in Adults with CIDP

On January 16 Takeda announced that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved HYQVIA® for the treatment of chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (CIDP) as maintenance therapy to prevent the relapse of neuromuscular disability and impairment in adults. HYQVIA first received approval in the U.S. in 2014 for the treatment of primary immunodeficiency (PI) in adults, which has since been expanded to include children 2-16 years old.

HYQVIA is the only FDA-approved combination of immunoglobulin (IG) and hyaluronidase, which makes it a facilitated subcutaneous immunoglobulin (SCIG) infusion. For adults with CIDP, HYQVIA can be infused up to once monthly (every two, three or four weeks) due to the hyaluronidase component, which facilitates the dispersion and absorption of large IG volumes in the subcutaneous space between the skin and the muscle. Because it is delivered subcutaneously, HYQVIA can be administered by a healthcare professional in a medical office, infusion center or at a patient's home. In addition, it can be self-administered after appropriate patient or caregiver training.

“With the FDA approval of HYQVIA for CIDP, which builds on our expertise in rare neuroimmunological and neuromuscular disorders, we can now offer a personalized maintenance treatment option for adults with this debilitating disease,” said Giles Platford, president of Takeda's Plasma-Derived Therapies Business Unit. “Research and clinical experience have shown that IG therapy is effective as maintenance treatment in adults with CIDP, and we hope that this approval for HYQVIA is the first of several around the world as we strive to deliver our broad and diverse IG portfolio to more people with complex neuroimmunological diseases.”

CIDP is a rare, acquired, immune-mediated neuromuscular disorder affecting the peripheral nervous system. It is typically characterized by progressive, symmetric symptoms such as weakness, tingling or loss of feeling in distal and proximal limbs, loss of reflexes and difficulty walking. Because its symptoms may overlap with other rare, neuromuscular conditions, CIDP is often misdiagnosed. The mechanism of action of IG in the treatment of CIDP in adults has not been fully elucidated but may include immunomodulatory effects. The role of IG therapy as maintenance treatment in CIDP has been well-established and is the guidelines-based standard of care for this complex and heterogeneous condition. However, there are aspects of IVIG treatment that can be challenging for patients such as long treatment duration associated with high IG volumes, potential for venous access challenges, and infusion setting limitations.

HYQVIA is now available as a maintenance therapy for adult patients with CIDP in the U.S. In December 2023, Takeda **announced** that the European Medicines Agency's (EMA) Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) has recommended the approval of HYQVIA as maintenance therapy in patients with CIDP after stabilization with IVIG. The European Commission (EC) will consider the CHMP positive opinion when determining the potential marketing authorization for HYQVIA for CIDP throughout the European Union.

The press release link is: <https://www.takeda.com/en-us/newsroom/news-releases/2024/us-fda-approves-takedas-hyqvia-as-maintenance-therapy-in-adults-with-chronic-inflammatory-demyelinating-polyneuropathy-cidp>

CMS Finalizes Prior Authorization Regulation That Will Help Patients and Providers

CMS recently finalized comprehensive prior authorization reform regulations that require electronic prior authorization processes, shorten the time frames to respond to prior authorization requests, require the public reporting of certain prior authorization metrics and establish policies to make the prior authorization process more efficient and transparent.

For full info please visit: <https://www.cmadoocs.org/newsroom/news/view/ArticleId/50424/Feds-finalize-significant-prior-auth-reform-regulation-160>

Groundbreaking Research Study Released on Peripheral Neuropathy

A recently released study from Bedrock Bioscience titled "Treatment of Peripheral Neuropathy," has key findings that unveiled innovative treatment strategies that have the potential to transform the lives of patients worldwide. An independent research team has successfully proven that Combination Therapy using LED Light, Extracorporeal Shockwave Therapy, Platelet Rich Plasma and an Oral Dietary Supplement have shown promising results in treating Peripheral Neuropathy in preclinical and clinical trials. "This study represents a major breakthrough in our understanding of this condition and opens up exciting possibilities for more effective treatments," said Dr. Spinoso, the lead researcher behind the study. "Our findings have the potential to revolutionize the medical field and significantly improve the quality of life for patients."

To learn more or to read the actual study please visit: [Bedrock Bioscience Announces Groundbreaking Medical Study Published in Prestigious Journal | BioSpace](#)



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