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Transcript of Video - What You Need to Know About Mavenclad

Planet Depos
Phone: 888-433-3767
Fax: 888-503-3767
Email: transcripts@planetdepos.com
www.planetdepos.com

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RECORDED VIDEO - WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

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MAVENCLAD

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<https://www.nationalmssociety.org/Treating-MS/Medications/Mavenclad>

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Job No.: 514115

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Transcribed by: Lauren Bishop

1 DR. AARON MILLER, MD: It's always exciting
2 to have a new medication for the treatment of
3 multiple sclerosis. In this case, we're going to be
4 talking about a new medicine called Mavenclad. The
5 scientific name for Mavenclad is Cladribine. And
6 Cladribine has been used has been approved to be used
7 in patients with relapsing, remitting multiple
8 sclerosis and secondary progressive MS with activity.
9 So nowadays, we classify multiple sclerosis into
10 several different types. One is relapsing remitting
11 MS. These are people who have clear cut relapses and
12 then a relapse resolves often completely. Sometimes
13 leaving some degree of neurological deficit behind
14 until another relapse comes.

15 At the very first episode of MS, a first
16 attack of something that looks like MS, we may refer
17 to that as a clinically isolated syndrome, meaning a
18 person doesn't meet the criteria for definite MS yet.
19 In some cases we may treat patients with CIS with
20 certain medicines, but specifically Mavenclad has not
21 been approved for the treatment of clinically
22 isolated syndrome. Other forms of MS are progressive

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1 disease, and we have two types of progressive
2 disease. Secondary progressive disease and primary
3 progressive MS. Secondary progressive MS is diagnosed
4 in a person who once upon a time had at least one
5 relapse and then ultimately the disease course
6 changes so that the person is little by little
7 getting worse.

8 Primary progressive MS refers to a patient
9 who from the very beginning had a progressive course.
10 Relapses are sometimes superimposed later on but the
11 initial course was progressive.

12 Nowadays, however, we apply modifiers to
13 these Progressive courses depending on whether or not
14 an individual has what we refer to as activity.
15 Activity could either be clinical activity that is a
16 relapse or it could be new lesions on MRI. So the FDA
17 in approving Mavenclad for the very first time use
18 the term secondary progressive MS with activity so
19 that means a person who has been getting
20 progressively worse, but in the recent past has had
21 either new relapses or new lesions appearing on the
22 MRI scan. Interestingly, the FDA did not apply a time

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1 frame for what they meant by activity. Usually
2 clinicians will be thinking about activity in the
3 relatively recent past. Let's say the past year or
4 two, but the FDA specifically did not mention that in
5 the prescribing information for Mavenclad.

6 Mavenclad is a drug which interferes with
7 the synthesis and repair of DNA in certain cells and
8 by interfering with these processes, it kills certain
9 cells. In particular, it's use in MS has come about
10 because the substrate for Mavenclad is particularly
11 concentrated in lymphocytes. And so the drug has a
12 particularly strong effect in destroying lymphocytes.
13 Lymphocytes are a form of immune cells that are
14 involved in the MS process and lymphocytes come in
15 two major varieties, T cells and B cells. And both of
16 these are affected by Mavenclad.

17 The treatment regimen for Mavenclad is
18 rather unique. So Mavenclad is a -- a tablet. It
19 comes as a 10-milligram tablet and the dose of
20 Mavenclad is dependent on an individual's weight.
21 This is the only MS medicine that we have that is not
22 given in a fixed dose but rather the dose is

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