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LONG-TERM EFFECTIVENES AND SAFETY RESULTS OF GALCANEZUMAB IN REAL-WORLD DATA IN MIGRAINE PROPHYLAXIS

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Background and importance

Galcanezumab is a monoclonal antibody (MAB) for migraine prophylaxis that has been shown to be safe and effective in reducing the number of migraine days per month in short-duration clinical trials. Nevertheless, the optimal duration of therapy remains unresolved. Clinical practice guidelines recommend maintaining treatment for 12 months.

Aim and objectives

To assess the long-term effectiveness and safety of galcanezumab in episodic migraine (EM) and chronic migraine (CM).

Materials and Method

Retrospective observational study: September 2020 - July 2023.

Patients treated with galcanezumab for at least a 12-month follow-up period from the start of treatment. According to hospital protocol, after 12 months of MAB, neurologists decide whether continue or discontinue it and reassess 3 months later and restart MAB if migraine worsens.

Collected data: migraine-related variables, treatment-related variables and adverse events. Data were obtained from the electronic medical record.

Results

64 patients, 54 CM and 10 EM.

Median age: 48 (range 21-76) years. Women 84%.

Mean of days of migraine previous to galcanezumab: 20.46±6.55 (CM) and 12±1.48 (EM).

Median duration of galcanezumab: 18.4(1.9–34.9) months.

Patients completed the first 12-month of		Patients discontinued galcanezumab:	20
treatment:		Lack of response	20
48 (n=64)		Injection site rash	2
Patients continued with galcanezumab at:		Pregnancy	1
18 months	32 (n=45)	Excellent treatment response	1
24 months	19 (n=26)	Patients switched to another MAB:	17
30 months	14 (n=18)	Rebound	15
34 months	8 (n=8)	Injection site rash	2
They were chronically maintained		Patients restarted galcanezumab:	2
galcanezumab to prevent worsening if MAB		After pregnancy	1
was discontinued		Rebound 10 months after stop galcanezumab	1

Adverse events: constipation (12), injection site pain (3), dizziness (3), rhinitis (3), diarrhea (2), injection site rash (2).

Conclusion and relevance

- In our study, galcanezumab remained long term effectiveness, safe, and well tolerated with few adverse events for more than 12 months in patients with episodic and chronic migraine.
- It was only discontinued in case of great improvement or therapeutic failure.
- Studies with larger samples are required to establish whether it could be used as a chronic treatment in patients with a high probability of worsening if treatment is discontinued.



