



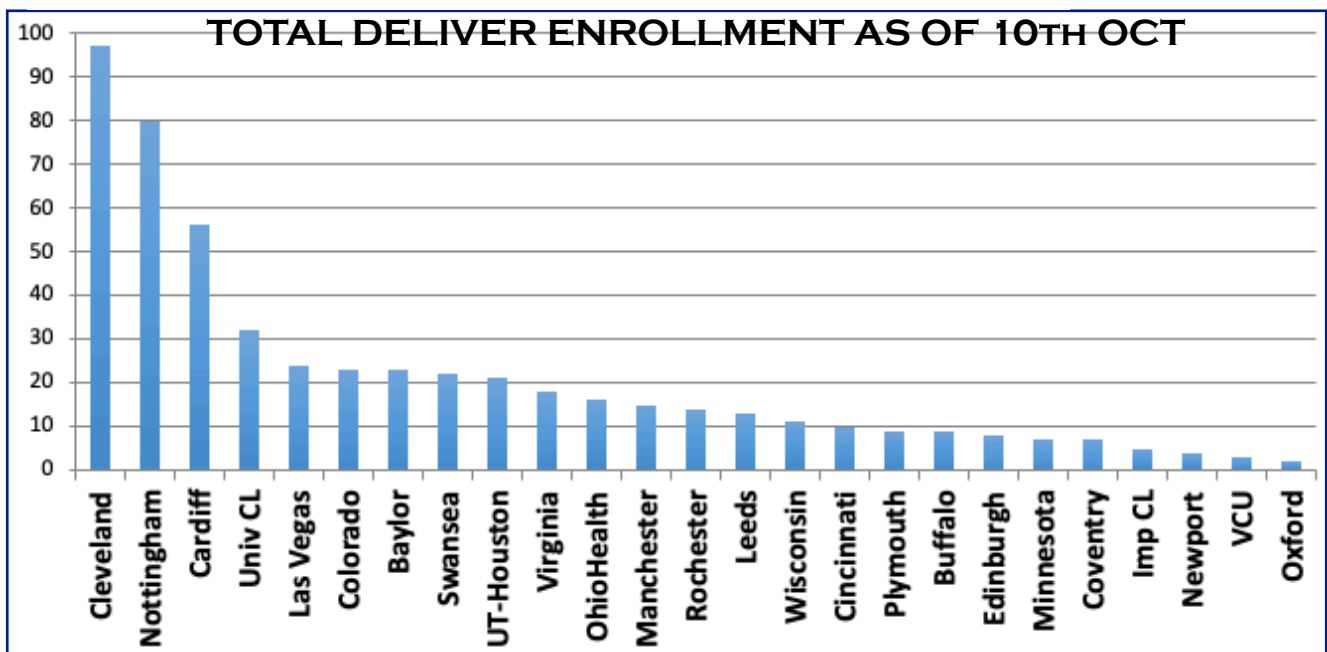
OCTOBER 2021

Does early treatment with highly effective DMT improve prognosis for people with MS?

THIS MONTHS IS ALL ABOUT ENROLMENT

October is an important month for the DELIVER-MS team as we continue to push for enrolment into the study. We must demonstrate that we have achieved interim recruitment milestones so please keep this in mind this month as you do your best to identify participants. We also want to remind you on the importance of getting subjects into the randomized trial, and in case you had any uncertainty about why to recruit, we continue to highlight the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on equipoise below.

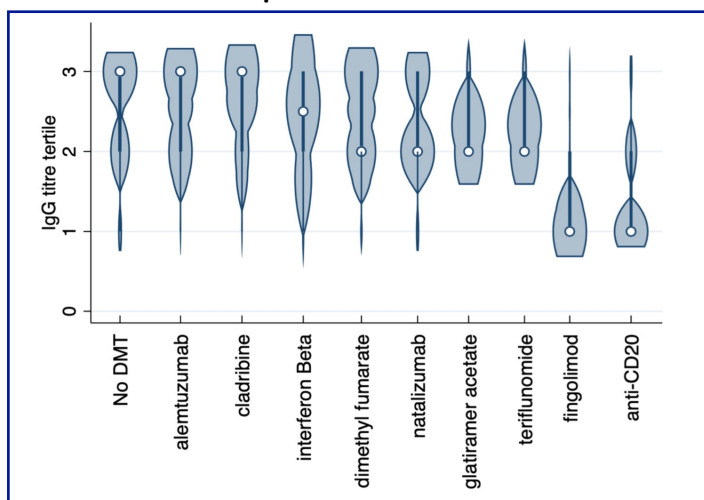
MONTHLY ENROLLMENT AS OF 10TH OCT



FOCUS ON: EQUIPOISE IN DMT PRESCRIBING

The pandemic has served to highlight equipoise in various ways.

- Use of anti-CD20 DMT has been associated with higher risk of COVID-19 and higher risk of severe COVID-19 (Sormani et al. *Annals of Neurol.* 2021; Reder et al. *CNS Drugs* 2021).
- Vaccinations have been shown to be less effective in people receiving some high efficacy DMTs (anti-CD20 and fingolimod; Achiron et al., Sormani et al., Tallantyre et al. and others). NHS data to be presented atECTRIMS suggest that pwMS on DMTs



affecting antibody production are having more COVID infections.

SARS-CoV-2 IgG response in n=473 people with MS, according to DMT.

Tallantyre et al. Medrxiv 2021

These data have an understandable effect on pwMS and their specialists. In a survey of MS specialists performed by colleagues including Carrie Hersh (Vegas PI), 83% neurologists reported changes to their prescribing habits during the pandemic:

- DMTs prescribed less often included alemtuzumab, cladribine, ocrelizumab, rituximab, fingolimod and siponimod.
- Specialists also reported altering dosing regimens of DMTs including alemtuzumab, ocrelizumab, rituximab, cladribine, natalizumab, fingolimod and siponimod.

Key Points to remember:

- In DELIVER-MS pwMS randomised to *Escalation* do not miss out on high efficacy DMTs. They receive escalation to high-efficacy therapy in a timely way whenever PI/ pwMS agree it is needed.
- All oral therapies are available in the *Escalation* arm
- It is a difficult time for those starting DMT, as COVID is here to stay, but an RCT will help us learn about the best approach.

FINAL THOUGHTS: RECRUIT, RECRUIT, RECRUIT!!

Thank you for everything you do to help answer the important question of escalation or highly effective therapy, which has become even more poignant during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are at a key stage in enrollment and need your ongoing commitment to complete the study. Remember this is your study and we would love to hear ideas for research with the data and analysis, including biomarkers!

Relevant Links

DELIVER-MS website:

www.deliver-ms.com

TREAT-MS website:

<https://treat-mstrial.org/>

DELIVER-MS mailing address:

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