

# High-efficacy therapy found to cut disability progression in pediatric MS study

April 15 2024, by Elana Gotkine

---



Treatment of pediatric-onset relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis with high-efficacy therapy reduces the risk for transition across disability

states, according to a [study](#) published in the May issue of *The Lancet Child and Adolescent Health*.

Sifat Sharmin, Ph.D., from the University of Melbourne in Australia, and colleagues examined how high-efficacy therapies influence transition across five disability states in individuals with pediatric-onset multiple [sclerosis](#). Data were included from 151 centers across 41 countries. People with onset of multiple sclerosis symptoms at younger than 18 years were included if they had a confirmed diagnosis of relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis and at least four Expanded Disability Status Scale scores recorded. Overall, 5,224 patients were included.

The researchers observed a reduction in the risk for disability worsening across the disability states with high-efficacy therapies. Compared with those who remained untreated, those treated with high-efficacy therapies while in the minimal disability state had the largest reduction (hazard ratio, 0.41).

There was a decline seen in the benefit of high-efficacy therapies with increasing disability. Compared with those who remained untreated, [young people](#) with minimal disability who received low-efficacy therapy also experienced a [reduced risk](#) for transitioning to mild disability (hazard ratio, 0.65).

"The new perspective presented here on the effect of early high-efficacy therapies for preserving neurological function among people with [pediatric-onset](#) multiple sclerosis provides a useful addition to the information guiding policy governing access to disease-modifying therapies in children with multiple sclerosis," the authors write.

**More information:** Sifat Sharmin et al, Disease-modifying therapies in managing disability worsening in paediatric-onset multiple sclerosis: a longitudinal analysis of global and national registries, *The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health* (2024). [DOI: 10.1016/S2352-4642\(24\)00047-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642(24)00047-6)

E Ann Yeh, Real-life benefits of high-efficacy therapies for children with multiple sclerosis, *The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health* (2024). [DOI: 10.1016/S2352-4642\(24\)00074-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642(24)00074-9)

Copyright © 2024 [HealthDay](#). All rights reserved.

Citation: High-efficacy therapy found to cut disability progression in pediatric MS study (2024, April 15) retrieved 2 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2024-04-high-efficacy-therapy-disability-pediatric.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.