**Table S2. Comparison of patient and disease characteristics for patients treated with glatiramer acetate and interferons**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | **PLM** | **MS Center** | **COMPARISON** | **METHOD** |
| **GLATIRAMER ACETATE** |
| **N** | **2552** | **987** | **p-value** |  |
| **Current Age** | 44.65 (10.16) | 47.21 (11.26) | < 0.001 | t-test |
| **Age at first symptom** | 33.29 (9.84) | 34.85 (10.24) | < 0.001 | t-test |
| **Disease Duration, yrs** | 11.34 (8.91) | 12.36 (9.67) | 0.0043 | t-test |
| **Gender (F)** | 2069 (82.10) | 707 (72.29) | < 0.001 | chi-sq |
| **Family History** | 527 (21.22) | 231 (24.65) | 0.0313 | chi-sq |
| **Race** |  |   | 0.2007 | Fisher's exact |
| Native American | 7 (1.00) | 2 (0.21) |   |   |
| Asian | 4 (0.57) | 7 (0.74) |   |   |
| Black | 25 (3.58) | 29 (3.07) |   |   |
| Mixed Race | 18 (2.58) | 18 (1.91) |   |   |
| Hawaiian | 0 (0) | 0 (0) |   |   |
| White | 645 (92.27) | 888 (94.07) |   |   |
| **MS course** |  |   | < 0.001 | Fisher's exact |
| Primary progressive | 106 (4.44) | 36 (4.05) |   |   |
| Secondary progressive | 217 (9.08) | 148 (16.67) |   |   |
| Progressive relapsing | 57 (2.39) | 3 (0.34) |   |   |
| Relapsing-remitting | 2009 (84.09) | 701 (78.94) |   |   |
| **Education** |  |   | < 0.001 | Fisher's exact |
| 8th Grade or Less | 2 (0.28) | 7 (0.84) |   |   |
| Some High School | 13 (1.85) | 16 (1.92) |   |   |
| High School Grad | 92 (13.11) | 118 (14.13) |   |   |
| Some College | 299 (42.59) | 465 (55.69) |   |   |
| College | 185 (26.35) | 112 (13.41) |   |   |
| Post Graduate | 111 (15.81) | 117 (14.01) |   |   |
| **INTERFERONS** |
| **N** | **2998** | **737** | **p-value** |  |
| **Current Age** | 43.92 (10.42) | 46.55 (10.96) | < 0.001 | t-test |
| **Age at first symptom** | 32.86 (9.83) | 33.68 (9.89) | 0.0458 | t-test |
| **Disease Duration, yrs** | 11.09 (8.77) | 12.72 (8.94) | < 0.001 | t-test |
| **Gender (F)** | 2374 (79.66) | 530 (72.50) | < 0.001 | chi-sq |
| **Family History** | 638 (21.91) | 158 (22.48) | 0.7453 | chi-sq |
| **Race** |  |   | 0.3792 | Fisher's exact |
| Native American | 3 (0.43) | 1 (0.15) |   |   |
| Asian | 4 (0.58) | 8 (1.16) |   |   |
| Black | 46 (6.64) | 42 (6.11) |   |   |
| Mixed Race | 21 (3.03) | 13 (1.89) |   |   |
| Hawaiian | 1 (0.14) | 0 (0) |   |   |
| White | 618 (89.18) | 623 (90.68) |   |   |
| **MS course** |  |   | <0.001 | chi-sq |
| Primary progressive | 113 (4.10) | 13 (1.90) |   |   |
| Secondary progressive | 254 (9.22) | 89 (12.99) |   |   |
| Progressive relapsing | 68 (2.47) | 8 (1.17) |   |   |
| Relapsing-remitting | 2320 (84.21) | 575 (83.94) |   |   |
| **Education** |  |   | < 0.001 | Fisher's exact |
| 8th Grade or Less | 1 (0.14) | 3 (0.48) |   |   |
| Some High School | 10 (1.42) | 8 (1.27) |   |   |
| High School Grad | 100 (14.20) | 115 (18.25) |   |   |
| Some College | 302 (42.90) | 349 (55.40) |   |   |
| College | 179 (25.43) | 72 (11.43) |   |   |
| Post Graduate | 112 (15.91) | 83 (13.17) |   |   |