

## PRODUCT MONOGRAPH

Pr **TYSABRI**<sup>®</sup>

natalizumab

Concentrate for solution for intravenous infusion  
300 mg/15 mL

Therapeutic Classification: Selective adhesion molecule inhibitor

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1-855-MSONE-00 (1-855-676-6300)

Date of Approval:  
10 January 2017

Submission Control No: 200333

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**TYSABRI should be used by physicians who have sufficient knowledge of multiple sclerosis and who have familiarized themselves with the efficacy/safety profile of the drug.**

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Pr **TYSABRI**<sup>®</sup>  
natalizumab

**PART I: HEALTH PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION**

**SUMMARY PRODUCT INFORMATION**

<b>Route of Administration</b>	<b>Dosage Form / Strength</b>	<b>Clinically Relevant Nonmedicinal Ingredients</b>
Intravenous infusion	Concentrate for solution / 300 mg per 15 mL	There are no clinically relevant nonmedicinal ingredients. For a complete listing of nonmedicinal ingredients see Dosage Forms, Composition and Packaging section.

**DESCRIPTION**

TYSABRI (natalizumab) is a recombinant humanized IgG<sub>4k</sub> monoclonal antibody selective for  $\alpha$ 4-integrin. Natalizumab is produced in murine myeloma cells. The molecular weight of natalizumab is 149 kilodaltons. TYSABRI is supplied as a sterile, colourless, clear to slightly opalescent concentrate for solution for intravenous (IV) infusion.

**INDICATIONS AND CLINICAL USE**

TYSABRI (natalizumab) is indicated as monotherapy (i.e. single disease-modifying agent) for the treatment of patients with the relapsing-remitting form of multiple sclerosis (MS) to reduce the frequency of clinical exacerbations, to decrease the number and volume of active brain lesions identified on magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans and to delay the progression of physical disability. TYSABRI is generally recommended in MS patients who have had an inadequate response to, or are unable to tolerate, other therapies for multiple sclerosis.

Safety and efficacy in patients with chronic progressive multiple sclerosis, and in geriatric and pediatric patients, have not been established.

The efficacy of TYSABRI for a treatment duration beyond 2 years has not been determined.

**TYSABRI should be used by physicians who have sufficient knowledge of multiple sclerosis and who have familiarized themselves with the efficacy/safety profile of TYSABRI.**

TYSABRI is only available through a controlled distribution program called Biogen ONE<sup>®</sup> Support Program. Under this program, only prescribers and pharmacies registered with the program are able to prescribe and dispense the product. In addition, TYSABRI can only be dispensed to patients who are registered and meet all the conditions of the Biogen ONE<sup>®</sup> Support

Program. Please call 1-855-676-6300 or log onto BIOGENcareforMS.ca.

### **Geriatrics (>65 years of age)**

Clinical studies of TYSABRI did not include sufficient numbers of patients aged 65 years and over to determine whether they respond differently than younger patients.

### **Pediatrics (<18 years of age)**

Safety and effectiveness of TYSABRI in pediatric patients with multiple sclerosis have not been established.

## **CONTRAINDICATIONS**

- Patients who are hypersensitive to this drug or to any ingredient in the formulation or component of the container. For a complete listing, see the Dosage Forms, Composition and Packaging section of the Product Monograph.
- Patients who have or have had progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML).
- Patients who are immunocompromised, including those immunocompromised due to immunosuppressant or antineoplastic therapies, or immunodeficiencies (HIV, leukemias, lymphomas, etc.).

## **WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS**

- |   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Treatment with TYSABRI (natalizumab) has been associated with an increased risk of progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML) and/or granule cell neuronopathy (GCN) secondary to opportunistic infection caused by JC virus. Both PML and JCV GCN can cause disability or death (see Warnings and Precautions, Infections; Contraindications; Adverse Reactions).</b></li><li>▪ <b>Healthcare professionals should monitor patients on TYSABRI for any new sign or symptom that may be suggestive of PML and/or JCV GCN. TYSABRI dosing should be withheld immediately at the first sign or symptom suggestive of either PML or JCV GCN. Diagnosis and management of GCN should follow guidance provided for PML.</b></li></ul> |
|---|

### **General**

Before initiation of treatment with TYSABRI (natalizumab), a recent magnetic resonance image (MRI) should be available. This MRI may be helpful in differentiating subsequent MS symptoms from PML. For diagnosis of PML, an evaluation that includes a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scan of the brain and, when indicated, cerebrospinal fluid analysis for JC viral DNA are recommended (see Warnings and Precautions, Infections).

Patients who are prescribed TYSABRI are to be enrolled in the Biogen ONE<sup>®</sup> Support Program – a registry of Canadian patients. To enroll, physicians fax an enrollment form to 1-855-676-6301. Biogen ONE<sup>®</sup> Support Program is a comprehensive program associated with the prescribing, administration and monitoring of patients who receive TYSABRI treatment.

**Educational Guidance:** Prescribers and Biogen ONE<sup>®</sup> Support Program healthcare professionals are educated regarding the appropriate use of TYSABRI, and information is updated regularly. Prescribers are expected to educate patients on the benefits and risks of treatment, especially the risk of PML. Patients should remain under medical supervision while receiving TYSABRI and should be evaluated by the prescriber every six months.

At 24 months of treatment, physicians should inform patients again about the risks of TYSABRI, including that the risk of PML increases with longer treatment duration. Physicians should obtain consent from their patients for continuation of treatment. At 24 months of treatment, the patient, their partner and/or caregiver should be re-instructed about the early signs and symptoms of PML.

### **Carcinogenesis and Mutagenesis**

No clastogenic or mutagenic effects of natalizumab were observed in the Ames human chromosomal aberration assays. Natalizumab showed no effects on in vitro assays of  $\alpha$ 4-integrin-positive human tumour line proliferation/cytotoxicity. Xenograft transplantation models in SCID and nude mice with two  $\alpha$ 4-integrin-positive human tumour lines (leukemia, melanoma) demonstrated no increase in tumour growth rates or metastasis resulting from natalizumab treatment.

No differences in incidence rates or the nature of malignancies between TYSABRI and placebo-treated patients were observed over 2 years of treatment. However, observation over longer treatment periods is required before any effect of TYSABRI on malignancies can be excluded. Should a malignancy develop, TYSABRI therapy should be withheld at least until appropriate treatment has been initiated for the malignancy and the benefit and risks of resuming TYSABRI therapy have been deemed to be acceptable by the treating physician.

### **Hematologic**

In clinical trials, TYSABRI was observed to induce increases in circulating lymphocytes, monocytes, eosinophils and nucleated red blood cells. During phase 3 clinical trials, cell counts were measured every 12 weeks. The largest cell increases were seen in lymphocytes, which were found to be elevated within 12 weeks after initiating TYSABRI treatment, reaching a plateau by 24 weeks. Although elevated, mean cell counts remained within the normal range. Observed increases persisted during TYSABRI exposure, but were reversible, returning to baseline levels usually within 16 weeks after the last dose. Elevations of neutrophils were not observed. TYSABRI may induce mild decreases in hemoglobin levels (mean decrease of 6.0 g/L) that are frequently transient. Hemoglobin levels returned to pretreatment values, usually within 16 weeks of last dose of TYSABRI and the changes were not associated with clinical symptoms.

### **Hepatic**

In post-marketing experience, there have been rare reports of clinically significant liver injury, including markedly elevated serum hepatic enzymes and elevated total bilirubin, as early as 6 days after the first dose; signs of liver injury have also been reported for the first time after multiple doses. In some patients, liver injury recurred upon rechallenge. Some cases occurred in patients with pre-existing liver disease or in the presence of other drugs that have been associated with hepatic injury. Patients with history of liver disease, alcohol abuse, and/or treatment with other therapies that are known to cause liver injury should be carefully evaluated prior to

commencement of treatment with TYSABRI and closely monitored for possible liver damage during and after treatment. The combination of transaminase elevations and elevated bilirubin without evidence of obstruction is generally recognized as an important predictor of severe liver injury that may lead to death or the need for a liver transplant in some patients.

TYSABRI should be discontinued in patients who develop jaundice or other evidence of clinically significant liver injury, e.g., 5-fold or greater elevation in serum hepatic enzymes, and the patient should be fully evaluated. In cases with no other identifiable cause, TYSABRI should be permanently discontinued.

### **Infections**

#### **Progressive Multifocal Leukoencephalopathy:**

Use of TYSABRI has been associated with an increased risk of progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML), an opportunistic infection caused by John Cunningham Virus (JC virus). PML can cause severe disability or death.

#### **Risk of PML**

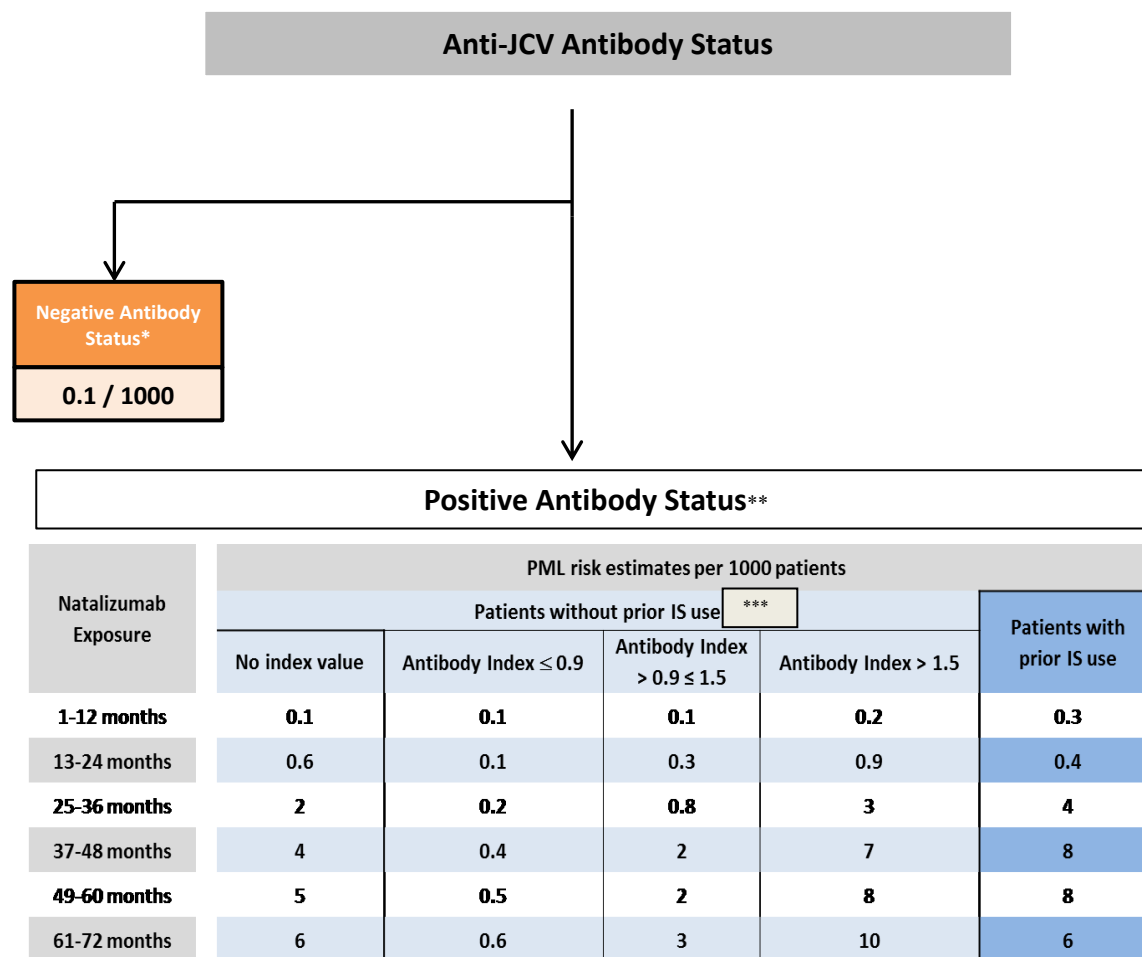
Three factors that are known to increase the risk of PML in TYSABRI-treated patients have been identified:

- The presence of anti-JCV antibodies. Testing for the presence of anti-JCV antibodies should only be performed using the STRATIFY JCV assay;
- Longer treatment duration, especially beyond 24 months; and
- Prior treatment with an immunosuppressant (IS), which appears independent of TYSABRI treatment duration.

The PML Risk Estimates Algorithm (Figure 1) summarizes PML risk by anti-JCV antibody status, prior IS use and duration of treatment (by year of treatment) and stratifies this risk by anti-JCV antibody level (index value), as derived from the STRATIFY JCV assay. The risk estimates are forward-looking in yearly intervals (e.g., the risk estimate corresponding to the 25-36 month TYSABRI exposure period is the PML risk estimated for the next year for patients treated for 24 months with TYSABRI). The individual treatment length of each patient is taken into consideration accounted for dropouts (e.g., treatment discontinuations).

Patients who are anti-JCV antibody negative are at a significantly lower risk of developing PML. Patients who have all three factors (anti-JCV antibody positive **and** prior IS use **and** duration of TYSABRI treatment >2 years) are at higher risk of PML. In patients not previously treated with IS, the level of anti-JCV antibodies (index value) can further stratify risk for PML. Index values equal to or below 0.9 are associated with a PML incidence of less than 1 per 1000 patients; PML risk increases substantially at index values above 1.5. The risks and benefits of continuing treatment with TYSABRI should be carefully considered in patients who have all three risk factors for PML or who have no prior IS use and have an index value of greater than 1.5 and more than 2 years of treatment with TYSABRI.

**Figure 1: PML Risk Estimates Algorithm**



\*The risk of PML in anti-JCV antibody negative patients were estimated based on post marketing data from approximately 125,000 TYSABRI exposed patients..

\*\*PML risk estimates in anti-JCV antibody positive patients were-based on the pooled cohort of 21,696 patients who participated in 3 observational studies (STRATIFY-2, TOP and TYGRIS) and 1 clinical study (STRATA). \*\*\*The majority of the prior IS use from these studies included the following 5 IS therapies: mitoxantrone, methotrexate, azathioprine, cyclophosphamide and mycophenolate.

The estimates of PML risk as derived from clinical and observational trial data have been consistent with postmarketing data.

Testing for Anti-JCV Antibody

Infection by the JC virus is required for the development of PML. Anti-JCV antibody negative status indicates that exposure to the JC virus has not been detected; such patients are still at risk for the development of PML due to the potential for a new JCV infection or a false negative test result. For purposes of risk assessment, a patient with a positive anti-JCV antibody test at any time is considered anti-JCV antibody positive regardless of the results of any prior or subsequent anti-JCV antibody testing.

Testing for serum anti-JCV antibody status (using STRATIFY JCV™ assay) prior to initiating TYSABRI therapy or in patients receiving TYSABRI with an unknown antibody status is recommended. In addition, anti-JCV antibody retesting is recommended for patients with anti-

JCV antibody negative status and for those anti-JCV antibody positive patients with lower index value, since the antibody status or index value may change. Retesting of patients who are anti-JCV antibody negative, every 6 months, is recommended. Patients with lower index values who have not had prior IS use should be retested periodically (e.g., every 6 months). Anti-JCV antibody negative patients may still be at risk of PML for reasons such as new JCV infection, fluctuating antibody status or a false negative test result. Based on a postmarketing study examining longitudinal antibody status over 18 months, there was approximately an 11% annual change in serostatus from anti-JCV antibody negative to positive. Testing should only be performed using an ELISA assay that has been validated for use in MS patients.

The anti-JCV antibody assay (ELISA) should not be used to diagnose PML. Use of plasmapheresis (PLEX) or intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIg) can affect meaningful interpretation of serum anti-JCV antibody testing. Anti-JCV antibody testing should not be performed during or for at least two weeks following PLEX due to the removal of antibodies from the serum or within 6 months of IVIg (i.e., 6 months = 5 x half-life for immunoglobulins).

#### Magnetic Resonance Imaging Screening for PML

Before initiation of treatment with TYSABRI, a recent magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scan should be available. Pre-treatment investigations (e.g., MRI) may be helpful in the evaluation of patients who develop signs or symptoms suggestive of PML. More frequent monitoring (e.g., every 3-6 months) should be considered for patients at higher risk of PML. This includes:

- Patients who have all three risk factors for PML (i.e., are anti-JCV antibody positive **and** have received more than 2 years of TYSABRI therapy, **and** have received prior immunosuppressant therapy),

Or

- Patients with an anti-JCV antibody index value of greater than 1.5 without prior history of immunosuppressant therapy and more than 2 years of natalizumab treatment.

PML in the absence of symptoms can be detected on MRI and must be confirmed by presence of JCV DNA in CSF or brain biopsy.

#### Assessing for PML

Typical symptoms of PML are diverse, progress over days to weeks, and include progressive weakness on one side of the body or clumsiness of limbs, disturbance of vision, and changes in thinking, memory and orientation leading to confusion and personality changes. **Withhold TYSABRI dosing immediately at the first sign or symptom suggestive of PML.**

Healthcare professionals should be particularly alert to symptoms suggestive of PML that the patient may not notice (e.g. cognitive or psychiatric symptoms). Patients should also be advised to inform their partner or caregivers about their treatment, since they may notice symptoms that the patient doesn't.

Monitoring for PML should continue while the patient is receiving TYSABRI therapy and for a period of 6 months following treatment. PML has been reported following discontinuation of TYSABRI in patients who did not have findings suggestive of PML at the time of discontinuation. Patients and healthcare professionals should continue to be vigilant for any new



signs or symptoms that may be suggested of PML for approximately 6 months following discontinuation of TYSABRI (see Stopping TYSABRI Therapy).

At 2 years of treatment, physicians should inform patients again about the risks of TYSABRI, including that the risk of PML increases with longer treatment duration. Physicians should obtain consent from their patients for continuation of treatment. At 2 years of treatment, the patient, their partner and/or caregiver should be re-instructed about the early signs and symptoms of PML.

TYSABRI should be suspended immediately at the first signs or symptoms suggestive of PML and an evaluation that includes a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scan of the brain should be performed. When indicated, cerebrospinal fluid analysis for JC viral DNA is recommended to confirm a diagnosis of PML. If initial investigations prove negative but clinical suspicion for PML still remains, TYSABRI should not be restarted and repeat investigations should be undertaken.

Patients being treated with TYSABRI should be instructed to report any new neurological signs or symptoms to their physician.

There are no known interventions that can reliably prevent PML or adequately treat PML if it occurs. It is not known whether early detection of PML and discontinuation of TYSABRI will mitigate the disease. In the post-marketing setting, early detection of PML and suspension of TYSABRI therapy may have contributed to improved survival rates from PML compared with the TYSABRI pre-approval clinical trial PML cases. Plasma exchange has been used to reduce the serum levels of TYSABRI. (See PML and IRIS (Immune Reconstitution Inflammatory Syndrome) below.)

It is unclear whether the risk of PML is increased in MS patients treated with TYSABRI in combination with interferon beta compared to TYSABRI alone. TYSABRI should not be used in combination with other immunosuppressive or immunomodulatory agents, regardless of their class.

#### PML and IRIS (Immune Reconstitution Inflammatory Syndrome)

In TYSABRI treated patients who developed PML, Immune Reconstitution Inflammatory Syndrome (IRIS) has been described following discontinuation or removal of TYSABRI (by plasma exchange); this can lead to serious neurological complications. In patients who have undergone plasma exchange, IRIS has occurred within days to several weeks. IRIS presents as a worsening in neurological status that may be rapid, as a result of the sudden reconstitution of immune function. It can lead to serious neurological complications and may be fatal. Monitoring for development of IRIS and appropriate treatment of the associated inflammatory reaction involving the brain should be undertaken.

#### **JCV Granule Cell Neuronopathy (GCN):**

JCV also causes granule cell neuronopathy (GCN) which has been reported in patients treated with TYSABRI. Symptoms of JCV GCN include progressive unsteadiness in walking (ataxia), slurred slow speech with loss of normal rhythm (dysarthria), and/or incoordination of movements, and diagnosis and management of JCV GCN should follow guidance provided for PML (see Adverse Reactions, Post Market Adverse Drug Reactions, Infections).

**Herpes Infections:**

TYSABRI increases the risk of developing encephalitis and meningitis caused by herpes simplex and varicella zoster viruses. Serious, life-threatening, and sometimes fatal cases have been reported in the postmarketing setting in multiple sclerosis patients receiving TYSABRI. Laboratory confirmation in those cases was based on positive PCR for viral DNA in the cerebrospinal fluid. The duration of treatment with TYSABRI prior to onset ranged from a few months to several years. Monitor patients receiving TYSABRI for signs and symptoms of meningitis and encephalitis. If herpes encephalitis or meningitis occurs, TYSABRI should be discontinued, and appropriate treatment for herpes encephalitis/meningitis should be administered.

Acute retinal necrosis (ARN) is a fulminant viral infection of the retina caused by the family of herpes viruses (eg. varicella zoster). ARN has been observed in patients being administered TYSABRI and can be potentially blinding. Patients presenting with eye symptoms such as decreased visual acuity, redness and painful eye should be referred for retinal screening for ARN. Following clinical diagnosis of ARN, discontinuation of TYSABRI should be considered in these patients (see Adverse Reactions, Post Market Adverse Drug Reactions, Herpes).

**Other Opportunistic Infections:**

Physicians should be aware of the possibility that other opportunistic infections may occur during TYSABRI therapy (including patients without co-morbidities or concurrent therapy) and should include them in the differential diagnosis of infections that occur in TYSABRI treated patients. Serious, life-threatening and sometimes fatal cases have been reported. If an opportunistic infection is suspected, dosing with TYSABRI is to be suspended until such infections can be excluded through further evaluations. If a patient receiving TYSABRI is diagnosed with an opportunistic infection, TYSABRI should only be restarted after the infection has been treated and if the benefit and risks of resuming TYSABRI therapy have been deemed to be acceptable by the treating physician.

**Stopping TYSABRI Therapy:**

If a decision is made to stop treatment with natalizumab, the physician needs to be aware that natalizumab remains in the blood, and has pharmacodynamic effects (e.g increased lymphocyte counts) for approximately 12 weeks following the last dose. Starting other therapies during this interval will result in a concomitant exposure to natalizumab. For medicinal products such as interferon and glatiramer acetate, concomitant exposure of this duration was not associated with safety risks in clinical trials. No data are available in MS patients regarding concomitant exposure with immunosuppressant medication. Use of these medicinal products soon after the discontinuation of natalizumab may lead to an additive immunosuppressive effect. This should be carefully considered on a case-by-case basis, and a wash-out period of natalizumab might be appropriate. Short courses of steroids used to treat relapses were not associated with increased infections in clinical trials.

**Immune****Hypersensitivity Reactions:**

TYSABRI has been associated with hypersensitivity reactions, which occurred at an incidence of 4%, including serious systemic reactions (e.g. anaphylaxis), which occurred at an incidence of <1%. These reactions usually occurred within 2 hours of the start of the infusion. Symptoms

associated with these reactions included urticaria, dizziness, fever, rash, rigors, pruritus, nausea, flushing, hypotension, dyspnea and chest pain. Generally, these reactions are associated with antibodies to TYSABRI. The risk for hypersensitivity was greatest with early infusions and in patients re-exposed to TYSABRI following an initial short exposure (up to three infusions) and extended period (three months or more) without treatment. If a hypersensitivity reaction occurs, discontinue administration of TYSABRI immediately and initiate appropriate therapy.

Physicians should inform patients about the importance of uninterrupted dosing, particularly in the early months of treatment.

Post-Marketing Experience: There have been reports of hypersensitivity reactions which have been associated with one or more of the following: hypotension, hypertension, chest pain, chest discomfort, and dyspnea.

### **Immunosuppression:**

The safety and efficacy of TYSABRI in combination with antineoplastic or immunosuppressive agents have not been established. Concurrent use of these agents with TYSABRI may increase the risk of infections, including opportunistic infections, over the risk observed with use of TYSABRI alone. The risk of PML is also increased in patients who have been treated with an immunosuppressant prior to receiving TYSABRI (see Contraindications).

In clinical studies for conditions other than MS, opportunistic infections (e.g. pneumocystis carinii pneumonia, pulmonary mycobacterium avium intracellulare, bronchopulmonary aspergillosis and burkholderia cepacia) have been uncommonly observed in patients receiving TYSABRI; some of these patients were receiving concurrent immunosuppressants (see Adverse Reactions). In pivotal clinical trials (1801 and 1802), concomitant treatment of relapses with a short course of corticosteroids was not associated with an increased rate of infection in patients treated with TYSABRI as compared with placebo.

### **Immunizations:**

In a randomized, open label study of 60 patients with relapsing MS for tetanus antibody response, post-immunization antibody levels for TYSABRI-treated patients were lower compared to controls (analysis based on 40/60 (67%) subjects available for the primary analysis), and a slower and reduced humoral immune response to neoantigen (keyhole limpet haemocyanin) was observed (analysis based on 42/60 (70%) subjects available for the primary analysis). The clinical significance of this is unknown. Live vaccines have not been studied.

### **Effects on Ability to Drive and Use Machines:**

No studies on the effects on the ability to drive and use machines have been performed with TYSABRI. However, given that dizziness has been commonly reported, patients who experience this adverse reaction should be advised not to drive or use machines until it has resolved.

### **Special Populations**

#### **Pregnant Women:**

There are no adequate and well-controlled studies of TYSABRI therapy in pregnant women. In premarketing clinical trials, the extent of exposure is very limited. Because animal reproduction

studies are not always predictive of human response, this drug should only be used during pregnancy if clearly needed. If a woman becomes pregnant while taking TYSABRI, discontinuation of TYSABRI should be considered.

In reproductive studies in monkeys and guinea pigs, there was no evidence of teratogenic effects or effects on survival or growth of offspring at doses up to 30 mg/kg (7 times the human clinical dose based on body weight comparison). In one of five studies that exposed monkeys or guinea pigs during pregnancy, the number of abortions in treated (30 mg/kg) monkeys was 33% vs. 17% in controls. No effects on abortion rates were noted in any other study. A study in pregnant cynomolgus monkeys treated at 2.3-fold the clinical dose demonstrated natalizumab-related changes in the fetus. These changes included mild anemia, reduced platelet count, increased spleen weights, and reduced liver and thymus weights associated with increased splenic extramedullary hematopoiesis, thymic atrophy and decreased hepatic hematopoiesis. In offspring born to mothers treated with natalizumab at 7-fold the clinical dose, platelet counts were also reduced. This effect was reversed upon clearance of natalizumab. There was no evidence of anemia in these offspring.

#### **Nursing Women:**

TYSABRI has been detected in human milk. Because of this and the potential for serious adverse reactions in nursing infants from TYSABRI, a decision should be made whether to discontinue nursing or to discontinue the drug, taking into account the importance of the drug to the mother.

#### **Pediatrics (<18 years):**

Safety and effectiveness of TYSABRI in pediatric MS patients have not been established.

#### **Geriatrics (>65 years):**

Clinical studies of TYSABRI did not include sufficient numbers of patients to determine whether they respond differently than younger patients.

## **ADVERSE REACTIONS**

### **Adverse Drug Reaction Overview**

Serious adverse drug reactions most frequently reported during treatment with TYSABRI™ (natalizumab) in clinical trials were infections (3.2% vs. 2.6% placebo, including urinary tract infection [0.8% vs. 0.3%] and pneumonia [0.6% vs. 0%]); acute hypersensitivity reactions (1.1% vs. 0.3%, including anaphylaxis/anaphylactoid reaction [0.8% vs. 0%]); depression (1.0% vs. 1.0%, including suicidal ideation [0.6% vs. 0.3%]); and cholelithiasis (1.0% vs. 0.3%) (see Warnings and Precautions, Immune, Hypersensitivity Reactions).

The most frequently reported adverse events leading to discontinuation of TYSABRI therapy were urticaria (1%) and other hypersensitivity reactions (1%) (see Warnings and Precautions, Immune, Hypersensitivity Reactions).

In clinical trials, cases of PML have been reported. PML can cause severe disability or death (see Warnings and Precautions, Infections, Progressive Multifocal Leukoencephalopathy).

## **Clinical Trial Adverse Drug Reactions**

*Because clinical trials are conducted under very specific conditions the adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials may not reflect the rates observed in practice and should not be compared to the rates in the clinical trials of another drug. Adverse drug reaction information from clinical trials is useful for identifying drug-related adverse events and for approximating rates.*

### **Summary Listing of Adverse Events:**

In placebo-controlled trials in 1617 patients with multiple sclerosis treated with TYSABRI, the incidence of common events was balanced between the TYSABRI-treated patients and those who received placebo. Adverse events leading to discontinuation of therapy occurred in 5.8% of patients receiving TYSABRI and in 4.8% of patients receiving placebo. Events are listed in Table 1 by body system and frequency of occurrence in the TYSABRI group.

**Table 1. All Adverse Events in Placebo-Controlled Studies of MS Occurring with Incidence  $\geq 1.0\%$  in TYSABRI Group and  $> 0.5\%$  in TYSABRI Group than Placebo Group**

<b>System Organ Class</b>	<b>Preferred Term</b>	<b>Placebo (n=1135)</b>	<b>TYSABRI (n=1617)</b>
Infections and infestations	Influenza	146 (12.9%)	225 (13.9%)
	Sinusitis	122 (10.7%)	184 (11.4%)
	Upper respiratory tract infection viral	88 (7.8%)	134 (8.3%)
	Pharyngitis	59 (5.2%)	125 (7.7%)
	Gastroenteritis	21 (1.9%)	56 (3.5%)
	Tonsillitis	23 (2.0%)	51 (3.2%)
	Bladder infection	16 (1.4%)	38 (2.4%)
	Herpes zoster	16 (1.4%)	33 (2.0%)
	Respiratory tract infection	15 (1.3%)	30 (1.9%)
	Gingival infection	6 (0.5%)	18 (1.1%)
Blood and lymphatic system disorders	Anemia	14 (1.2%)	30 (1.9%)
Immune system disorders	Seasonal allergy	35 (3.1%)	58 (3.6%)
Psychiatric disorders	Depressed mood	16 (1.4%)	37 (2.3%)
Nervous system disorders	Headache	436 (38.4%)	634 (39.2%)
	Dysesthesia	23 (2.0%)	42 (2.6%)
	Sinus headache	19 (1.7%)	38 (2.4%)
Cardiac disorders	Tachycardia	9 (0.8%)	23 (1.4%)
Vascular disorders	Hematoma	6 (0.5%)	17 (1.1%)
Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders	Cough	81 (7.1%)	130 (8.0%)
	Sinus congestion	22 (1.9%)	51 (3.2%)
	Epistaxis	13 (1.1%)	28 (1.7%)
Gastrointestinal disorders	Abdominal pain	43 (3.8%)	75 (4.6%)
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders	Muscle cramp	42 (3.7%)	82 (5.1%)
	Joint swelling	13 (1.1%)	32 (2.0%)
Reproductive system and breast disorders	Menstruation irregular	12 (1.1%)	37 (2.3%)
General disorders and administration site conditions	Fatigue	305 (26.9%)	445 (27.5%)
	Oedema peripheral	25 (2.2%)	62 (3.8%)
	Chest pain	35 (3.1%)	58 (3.6%)
	Rigors	12 (1.1%)	55 (3.4%)
	Weight decreased	11 (1.0%)	27 (1.7%)
Injury, poisoning, procedural complications	Limb injury	20 (1.8%)	38 (2.4%)
	Thermal burn	12 (1.1%)	29 (1.8%)

**Additional Information:****Hypersensitivity:**

In post-marketing experience, there have been reports of hypersensitivity reactions with hypotension, hypertension, chest pain, chest discomfort, dyspnoea, and angioedema, in addition to more usual symptoms such as rash and urticaria.

The incidence of hypersensitivity reactions was based on the investigator assessment that the event was urticaria or an allergic reaction, which may have included terms such as urticaria, itch, flushing, hypersensitivity or anaphylactoid reaction. In controlled clinical trials in MS patients, hypersensitivity reactions occurred in up to 4% of patients. Serious systemic hypersensitivity reactions (e.g. anaphylactic/anaphylactoid) occurred in <1% (study 1801: 5/627) of MS patients. Hypersensitivity reactions usually occurred within two hours of the start of the infusion.

**Immunogenicity:**

Persistent anti-natalizumab antibodies (detected on two occasions at least 6 weeks apart) were associated with decreased efficacy of TYSABRI and an increased incidence of hypersensitivity reactions. The majority of patients who became persistently antibody-positive had developed antibodies by 12 weeks.

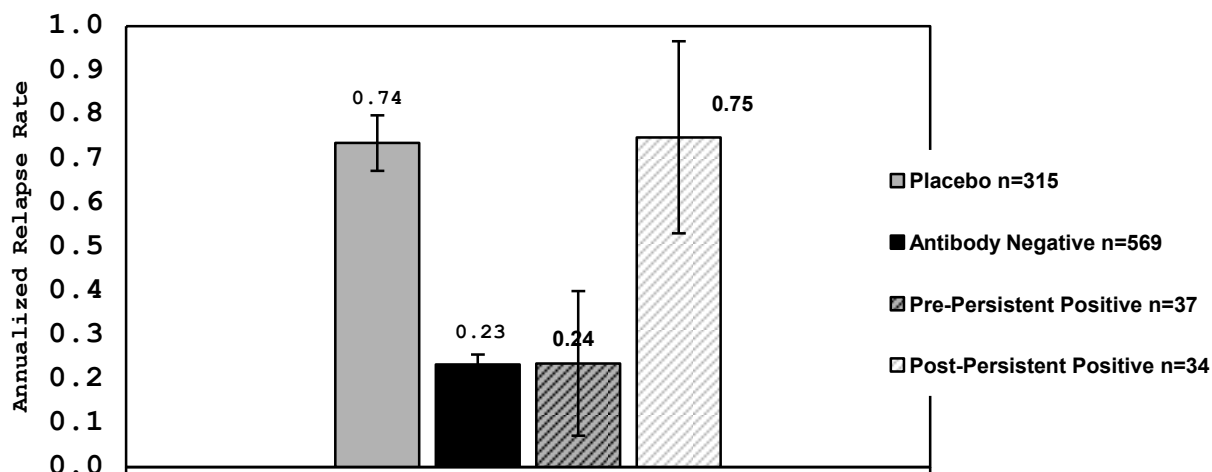
In controlled clinical trials in MS patients, persistent anti-natalizumab antibodies developed in approximately 6% of patients. Antibodies were detected on only one occasion in 4% of patients. Additional infusion-related reactions associated with persistent antibodies included rigors, nausea, vomiting and flushing. Approximately 90% of patients who became persistently antibody-positive in 2-year clinical trials had developed antibodies by 12 weeks.

If, after 3 months of TYSABRI treatment, the presence of persistent antibodies is suspected, or in patients who have received an initial short exposure to TYSABRI and extended periods without treatment, antibody testing should be performed. Antibodies may be detected and confirmed with sequential serum antibody tests. Antibodies detected early in the treatment course (e.g. within 6 months) may be transient and disappear with continued dosing. Repeat testing between 6 weeks and 3 months after the initial positive result is recommended in patients in whom antibodies are detected to confirm that antibodies are persistent. In the presence of persistent antibodies, discontinuation of treatment with TYSABRI should be considered (see Figure 2).

Patients who receive TYSABRI for a short exposure (1-2 doses) followed by an extended period without treatment are at higher risk of developing anti-natalizumab antibodies and/or hypersensitivity reactions on re-exposure. Given that patients with persistent antibodies to TYSABRI experienced reduced efficacy and that hypersensitivity reactions were more common in such patients, consideration should be given to testing for the presence of persistent antibodies prior to redosing following a prolonged dose interruption.

Information regarding the availability and location of testing laboratories may be obtained by contacting Biogen Canada at 1-855-MSONE-00 (1-855-676-6300).

**Figure 2: Subject Relapse Rate Prior to and After Antibody Detection – Persistent Positives – Study 1801.**



**Infections:**

In controlled clinical trials in MS patients, the rate of infection was approximately 1.5 per patient year in both TYSABRI and placebo-treated patients. The nature of the infections was generally similar in TYSABRI and placebo-treated patients. The majority of patients did not interrupt TYSABRI therapy during infections, and recovery occurred with appropriate treatment.

In clinical trials, cases of PML have been reported (see Warnings and Precautions, Infections; Adverse Drug Reaction Overview).

In other clinical trials, cases of opportunistic infections have been reported, some of which were fatal. While a causal role for natalizumab cannot be excluded, it is reasonable to conclude that comorbidities and concomitant medications played an important role in these infections. Should a serious opportunistic infection develop, TYSABRI therapy should be withheld until the infection has been successfully treated.

TYSABRI should only be restarted after the infection has been treated and if the benefit and risks of resuming TYSABRI therapy have been deemed to be acceptable by the treating physician (see Warnings and Precautions, Infections, Other Opportunistic Infections).

In clinical trials, herpes infections occurred slightly more frequently in natalizumab-treated patients than in placebo-treated patients. During post-marketing experience, there have been rare reports of serious cases including encephalitis and meningitis; some cases have been life-threatening and sometimes fatal. Should a serious herpes infection occur, TYSABRI therapy should be withheld until the infection has been treated.

Short courses of corticosteroids can be used in combination with TYSABRI. In phase 3 MS clinical trials, concomitant treatment of relapses with a short course of corticosteroids was not associated with an increased rate of infection in patients treated with TYSABRI as compared with those on placebo.



**Infusion-Related Reactions:**

An infusion-related reaction was defined in clinical trials as any adverse event occurring within 2 hours of the start of an infusion. These events occurred in 23.1% of MS patients treated with TYSABRI (18.7% placebo). Events reported more commonly with TYSABRI than with placebo included headache, dizziness, fatigue, urticaria, pruritus and rigors.

**Malignancies:**

No differences in incidence rates or the nature of malignancies between TYSABRI and placebo-treated patients were observed over 2 years of treatment. However, observation over longer treatment periods is required before any effect of TYSABRI on malignancies can be excluded. Should a malignancy develop, TYSABRI therapy should be withheld at least until appropriate treatment has been initiated for the malignancy and the benefit and risks of resuming TYSABRI therapy have been deemed to be acceptable by the treating physician.

**Less Common Clinical Trial Adverse Drug Reactions**

The incidence of adverse drug reactions experienced by <1% of subjects in natalizumab group and at least 0.1% higher in natalizumab compared to placebo are listed below:

**Blood and lymphatic system disorders**

Anemia, thrombocytopenia, leukocytosis

**Cardiac disorders**

Tachycardia, angina pectoris

**Ear and labyrinth disorders**

Vertigo

**Gastrointestinal disorders**

Flatulence, upper abdominal pain, abdominal distention, epigastric discomfort

**General disorders and administration site conditions**

Feeling hot, peripheral edema, lethargy, feeling abnormal, infusion site erythema, pain, thirst, hyperpyrexia, infusion site pruritus

**Immune system disorders**

Hypersensitivity, anaphylactoid reaction, anaphylactic reaction

**Infections and infestations**

Progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy, pharyngitis, sinusitis, herpes simplex, herpes zoster, rhinitis infective, bronchial infection, gastroenteritis, skin and subcutaneous tissue abscess, furuncle, pharyngitis streptococcal, bladder infection, breast abscess, dermatitis infected, herpes viral infection, oral infection, pharyngitis viral, tooth infection, urinary tract infection

**Injury, poisoning and procedural complications**

Overdose

**Investigations**

Aspartate aminotransferase increased, neutrophil count increased, heart rate increased, neutrophil count decreased, white blood cell count increased, blood test abnormal

**Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders**

Myalgia, muscle cramp, muscle spasms, sensation of heaviness, joint stiffness, muscle tightness, muscle weakness

**Neoplasms benign, malignant and unspecified (incl cysts and polyps)**

Cyst

**Nervous system disorders**

Tremor, paresthesia oral, sensory disturbance, paresis, psychomotor hyperactivity, syncope

**Psychiatric disorders**

Depression, agitation

**Reproductive system and breast disorders**

Irregular menstruation

**Respiratory, thoracic and mediastinal disorders**

Cough, sinus congestion, wheezing, throat irritation

**Skin and subcutaneous tissue disorders**

Erythema, rash pruritic, acne, pruritus, urticaria, dry skin, onychorrhexis, skin irritation

**Vascular disorders**

Petechiae, poor venous access, thrombophlebitis, vasodilatation

## **Post-Market Adverse Drug Reactions**

*The following adverse reactions have been identified during post-marketing use of TYSABRI. Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or to establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.*

**Hypersensitivity:** There have been reports of hypersensitivity reactions which have been associated with one or more of the following: hypotension, hypertension, chest pain, chest discomfort, and dyspnea.

**Hepatic:** There have been rare reports of clinically significant liver injury, including markedly elevated serum hepatic enzymes and elevated total bilirubin, as early as 6 days after the first dose. In some patients, liver injury recurred upon rechallenge. Some cases occurred in patients with pre-existing liver disease or in the presence of other drugs that have been associated with hepatic injury.

### **Infections:**

#### **Progressive Multifocal Leukoencephalopathy:**

There have been rare reports of progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML) in patients with MS receiving TYSABRI monotherapy, including cases with onset in the absence of clinical symptoms of PML. Some cases have been reported up to 6 months following discontinuation of TYSABRI monotherapy (see Warnings and Precautions, Infections, Progressive Multifocal Leukoencephalopathy).

Patients who have all three risk factors for PML (i.e. anti-JCV antibody positive AND have received more than 2 years of TYSABRI therapy AND have received prior immunosuppressant therapy) are at a higher risk of PML.

Anti-JCV antibody testing may provide supportive information for PML risk stratification prior to or during treatment with TYSABRI.

Cases of JCV GCN have also been reported during postmarketing use of TYSABRI.

**Herpes:** There have been rare reports of serious cases of herpes infections.

In post marketing experience, acute retinal necrosis (ARN) has been observed at a higher incidence in patients receiving natalizumab. Some cases have occurred in patients with central nervous system (CNS) herpes infections (eg. herpes meningitis and encephalitis). Serious cases of ARN, either affecting one or both eyes, led to blindness in some patients. The treatment reported in these cases included anti-viral therapy and in some cases, surgery.

**Hematologic:** In post-marketing experience, there have been reports of eosinophilia (eosinophil count > 1,500/mm<sup>3</sup>) without clinical findings. In cases where TYSABRI therapy was discontinued the elevated eosinophil levels resolved. Rare serious cases of anemia and hemolytic anemia have been reported in patients treated with TYSABRI in post-marketing observational studies.

Cases from published literature reported transient mild to moderate thrombocytopenia and anemia observed in infants born to women exposed to TYSABRI in their third trimester of pregnancy. Therefore, it is recommended that newborns of women exposed to the medicinal product during the third trimester of pregnancy are monitored for potential hematological abnormalities.

## **DRUG INTERACTIONS**

### **Drug-Drug Interactions**

If a decision is made to stop treatment with TYSABRI, the physician needs to be aware that TYSABRI has pharmacodynamic effects (e.g. increased lymphocyte counts) for approximately 12 weeks following the last dose. For drugs such as interferon and glatiramer acetate, concomitant exposure of this duration was not associated with safety risks in clinical trials. This should be carefully considered on a case-by-case basis and a washout period of TYSABRI might be appropriate.

Should TYSABRI therapy be administered after treatment with another immunosuppressive drug, physicians should consider the half-life of the drug and the potential for persistent immunosuppressive effects of these products when considering if a washout period is needed and, if so, its duration.

TYSABRI should not be diluted with anything other than 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP.

### **Drug-Food Interactions**

No information is available.

### **Drug-Laboratory Interactions**

In clinical trials, TYSABRI was observed to induce increases in circulating lymphocytes, monocytes, eosinophils and nucleated red blood cells. Observed increases persisted during TYSABRI exposure, but were reversible, returning to baseline levels usually within 16 weeks after the last dose. Elevations of neutrophils were not observed.

TYSABRI may induce mild decreases in hemoglobin levels (mean decrease of 6.0 g/L). Hemoglobin levels returned to pretreatment values, usually within 16 weeks of last dose of TYSABRI and the changes were not associated with clinical symptoms.

## **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**

### **Dosing Considerations**

- TYSABRI (natalizumab) should be administered by a healthcare professional.
- Patients should be observed during the infusion and for 1 hour after the infusion is complete for signs and symptoms of infusion reactions. Promptly discontinue the

infusion upon the first observation of any signs or symptoms consistent with a hypersensitivity reaction.

- Dilute only with 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP.
- TYSABRI contains 52 mg sodium per vial. When diluted in 100 mL of 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP, TYSABRI contains 406 mg sodium per dose. This should be taken into consideration by patients on a controlled sodium diet.

### **Recommended Dose and Dosage Adjustment**

The recommended dose of TYSABRI is 300 mg IV infusion every 4 weeks. Do not administer TYSABRI as an IV push or bolus injection.

### **Administration**

#### **Dilution:**

#### **Parenteral Products:**

Use aseptic technique when preparing TYSABRI solution for IV infusion. Each vial contains a single dose and is intended for single patient use only.

TYSABRI is a colourless, clear to slightly opalescent concentrate. Inspect the TYSABRI vial for particulate material prior to dilution and administration. If visible particulates are observed and/or the liquid in the vial is discoloured, the vial must not be used. Do not use TYSABRI beyond the expiration date on the carton or vial.

To prepare the solution, withdraw 15 mL of TYSABRI concentrate from the vial using a sterile needle and syringe. Inject the concentrate into 100 mL 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP. No other IV diluents may be used to prepare the TYSABRI solution.

Gently invert the TYSABRI solution to mix completely. Do not shake. Inspect for particulate material prior to administration.

Following dilution, intravenously infuse TYSABRI solution. If immediate infusion is not possible, store the diluted solution at 2°C to 8°C. If stored at 2°C to 8°C, allow the solution to warm to room temperature prior to infusion and complete the infusion within 8 hours of dilution. DO NOT FREEZE.

<b>Vial Size</b>	<b>Volume of Diluent to be Mixed with Concentrate</b>	<b>Approximate Volume for infusion</b>	<b>Diluted Solution Concentration</b>
15 mL	100 mL 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP	115 mL	2.6 mg

Infuse over approximately 1 hour. Observe patients during the infusion and for 1 hour after the infusion is completed for signs and symptoms of infusion reactions.

After the infusion is complete, flush with 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP. Other medications should not be injected into infusion set side ports or mixed with TYSABRI.

### **OVERDOSAGE**

Safety of doses higher than 300 mg has not been adequately evaluated. The maximum amount of TYSABRI (natalizumab) that can be safely administered has not been determined.

For management of a suspected drug overdose, contact your regional Poison Control Centre.

## **ACTION AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY**

### **Mechanism of Action**

TYSABRI (natalizumab) is a selective adhesion molecule (SAM) inhibitor and binds to the  $\alpha$ 4-subunit of human integrin, which is highly expressed on the surface of all leukocytes, with the exception of neutrophils.

Specifically, natalizumab binds to the  $\alpha$ 4 $\beta$ 1 integrin blocking the interaction with its cognate receptor, vascular cell adhesion molecule-1 (VCAM-1), and additional ligands such as osteopontin, and an alternatively spliced domain of fibronectin, connecting segment-1 (CS-1). Natalizumab blocks the interaction of  $\alpha$ 4 $\beta$ 7 integrin with the mucosal addressin cell adhesion molecule-1 (MadCAM-1). Disruption of these molecular interactions prevents transmigration of mononuclear leukocytes across the endothelium into inflamed parenchymal tissue. A further mechanism of action of natalizumab may be to suppress ongoing inflammatory reactions in diseased tissues by inhibiting the interaction of  $\alpha$ 4-expressing leukocytes with their ligands in the extracellular matrix and on parenchymal cells. As such, natalizumab may act to suppress inflammatory activity present at the disease site, and inhibit further recruitment of immune cells into inflamed tissues.

In multiple sclerosis (MS), lesions are believed to occur when activated inflammatory cells, including T-lymphocytes, cross the blood-brain barrier (BBB). Leukocyte migration across the BBB involves interaction between adhesion molecules on inflammatory cells and endothelial cells of the vessel wall. The interaction between  $\alpha$ 4 $\beta$ 1 and its targets is an important component of pathological inflammation in the brain, and disruption of these interactions leads to reduced inflammation. Under normal conditions, VCAM-1 is not expressed in the brain parenchyma. However, in the presence of pro-inflammatory cytokines, VCAM-1 is upregulated on endothelial cells, and possibly on glial cells near the sites of inflammation. In the setting of central nervous system (CNS) inflammation in MS, it is the interaction of  $\alpha$ 4 $\beta$ 1 with VCAM-1, CS-1 and osteopontin that mediates the firm adhesion and transmigration of leukocytes into the brain parenchyma, and may perpetuate the inflammatory cascade in CNS tissue. Blockade of the molecular interactions of  $\alpha$ 4 $\beta$ 1 with its targets reduces inflammatory activity present in the brain in MS and inhibits further recruitment of immune cells into inflamed tissue, thus reducing the formation or enlargement of MS lesions.

### **Pharmacodynamics**

Treatment with TYSABRI (natalizumab) led to an increase in circulating white blood cells and total lymphocytes that was maintained throughout the treatment period. This is due to the ability of natalizumab to inhibit adhesion of leukocytes to endothelial cells and diminish transmigration of these cells from the vascular space into inflamed tissues. These increases were not clinically significant and once treatment was discontinued, counts returned to baseline levels. Consistent with the mechanism of action of natalizumab and the lack of  $\alpha$ 4 on the surface of this cell type, there was no change in the number of circulating neutrophils.

### **Pharmacokinetics**

Pharmacokinetic values determined after a single 300 mg dose of TYSABRI in healthy subjects are provided in Table 2. Similar values observed in MS patients after a single dose and after 6 months of dosing as monotherapy are given in Table 3. Some accumulation occurs over the 6-month dosing period.

**Table 2: Pharmacokinetic Parameters, Single-Dose 300 mg Natalizumab as Intravenous Infusion of 60 minutes**

Median Values of Parameter	Study 1805	Study 1806
AUC <sub>τ</sub> (μg/mL *hr)	19900	21500
C <sub>max</sub> (μg/mL)	110	94
T <sub>max</sub> (hrs)	2.98	3.00
t <sub>1/2</sub> (hr)	224	249
V <sub>dis</sub> (mL/kg)	66.6	67.4
CL (mL/hr/kg)	0.212	0.179

**Table 3: Summary of Pharmacokinetic Parameters Following 60-Minute 300 mg Natalizumab Infusions Given Monthly in MS Patients (Mean +/- s.d.)**

Dose Number	Study	C <sub>max</sub> (μg/mL)	Minimum (Trough) Conc. (μg/mL)	AUC <sub>(last)</sub> (μg×hr/mL)	V <sub>d</sub> (mL/kg)	CL (mL/hr/kg)	t <sub>1/2</sub> (hr)
1	C-1801	84.8 ± 22.3	none	17884 ± 9165	77 ± 36	0.23 ± 0.09	249 ± 105
6	C-1801	94.7 ± 34.2	21.3 ± 15.3*	19609 ± 5701	81 ± 43	0.22 ± 0.06	265 ± 98

\*Representative of concentration at the end of 6-months dosing (24-week measurement)

Clinical studies, 101MS101 and 101MS102, demonstrated that the pharmacokinetic, pharmacodynamic, immunogenicity and safety profiles of drug product produced from a high yield drug substance manufacturing process are comparable to the drug product produced from the original drug substance manufacturing process.

In study 101MS101, α4-integrin saturation levels were generally consistent with those observed in the phase 3 studies (C-1801 and C-1802). In these studies which demonstrated efficacy, α4-integrin saturation approximating 70% was observed, however there was a high degree of assay variability.

### Special Populations and Conditions:

**Pediatrics:** The pharmacokinetics of TYSABRI in pediatric MS patients have not been established.

**Geriatrics:** The pharmacokinetics of TYSABRI in MS patients over 65 years of age have not been established.

**Hepatic insufficiency:** The pharmacokinetics of TYSABRI in patients with hepatic insufficiency have not been studied.

**Renal insufficiency:** The pharmacokinetics of TYSABRI in patients with renal insufficiency have not been studied.

**Gender:** Results of a population pharmacokinetics study demonstrated that gender did not

influence natalizumab pharmacokinetics.

**Race:** The effects of race on the pharmacokinetics of TYSABRI have not been studied.

**Duration of Effect:**

TYSABRI has pharmacodynamic effects (e.g. increased lymphocyte counts) for approximately 12 weeks following the last dose.

**STORAGE AND STABILITY**

TYSABRI (natalizumab) single-use vials must be stored in a refrigerator between 2°C to 8°C. Do not use beyond the expiration date on the carton and vial label. Do not shake or freeze. Protect from light.

If not used immediately, store the TYSABRI solution for infusion at 2°C to 8°C. The administration of TYSABRI solution for infusion must be completed within 8 hours of dilution.

**SPECIAL HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS**

TYSABRI (natalizumab) is for single use only. One vial of TYSABRI should be diluted only with 0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP before use.

Any unused product or waste material should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.

**DOSAGE FORMS, COMPOSITION AND PACKAGING**

TYSABRI (natalizumab) concentrate is supplied as 300 mg natalizumab in a sterile, single-use vial free of preservatives.

Each 15 mL dose also contains (pH 6.1):

123 mg sodium chloride, USP/Ph.Eur  
17.0 mg sodium phosphate, monobasic, monohydrate, USP  
7.24 mg sodium phosphate, dibasic, heptahydrate, USP  
3.0 mg polysorbate 80, USP/NF/Ph.Eur  
Water for Injection, USP/Ph.Eur

Each package contains one vial.



## **PART II: SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION**

### **PHARMACEUTICAL INFORMATION**

#### **DRUG SUBSTANCE**

Proper name: natalizumab

Chemical name: Recombinant, humanized, anti- $\alpha$ 4-integrin monoclonal antibody

Molecular weight: Approximately 149 kilodaltons.

Relevant physicochemical properties: Natalizumab is produced by recombinant DNA technology in a mouse NS/0 cell line. Natalizumab is of the IgG<sub>4</sub> subclass and consists of two heavy and two light chains connected by four inter-chain disulfide bonds.

## CLINICAL TRIALS

### Study demographics and trial design

**Table 4: Summary of Patient Demographics for Clinical Trials in MS**

Study #	Trial design	Dosage, Route of Administration and Duration	Study Subjects (n=number)	Median Age (Range)	Gender
<b>Pivotal Studies</b>					
1801 AFFIRM	Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study. MS patients who had experienced at least one clinical relapse during the prior year. EDSS score between 0.0 and 5.0	300 mg IV or placebo every 4 weeks for up to 30 infusions	942 (627 TYSABRI and 315 placebo)	37 (18-50)	F: 660 (70%) M: 282 (30%)
1802 SENTINEL	Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study. MS patients who had experienced at least one clinical relapse during the prior year on therapy with AVONEX 30 µg intramuscularly (IM) once weekly. EDSS score between 0.0 and 5.0	300 mg IV or placebo in combination with AVONEX 30 µg IM once weekly every 4 weeks for up to 30 infusions	1171 (589 TYSABRI and 582 in combination with AVONEX)	39 (18-55)	F: 862 (74%) M: 309 (26%)
<b>Supportive Studies</b>					
MS-231	Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled multicentre study in patients with relapsing remitting MS or secondary progressive MS	3 mg/kg, 6 mg/kg or placebo every 28 days for 6 infusions	213 (71 placebo, 68 TYSABRI 3 mg/kg, 74 TYSABRI 6 mg/kg)	44 (22-66)	F: 152 (71.4%) M: 61 (28.6%)

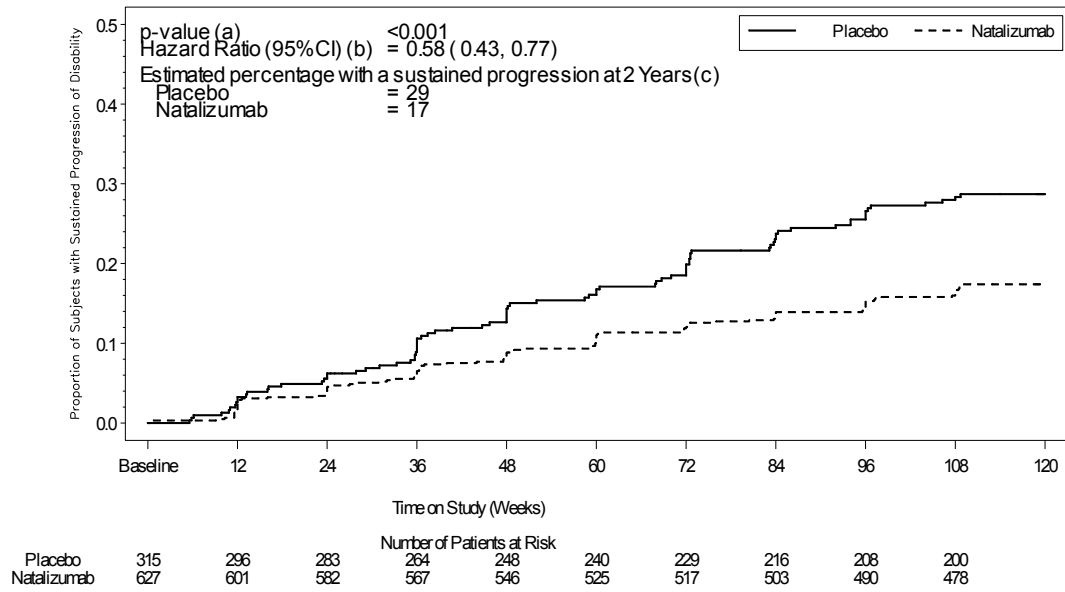
## Study results

**Table 5: AFFIRM (1801) Clinical and MRI Endpoints**

	<b>TYSABRI*</b> n=627	<b>Placebo*</b> n=315	<b>pvalue</b>
<b>Clinical Endpoints</b>			
Percentage with sustained progression of disability (increase in EDSS sustained for 12 weeks)	17%	29%	<i>p</i> <0.001
Hazard ratio	0.58, (95% CI 0.43, 0.77)		
Risk reduction	42%		
Percentage with sustained progression of disability (increase in EDSS sustained for 24 weeks)	11%	23%	<i>p</i> <0.001
Hazard ratio	0.46 (95% CI 0.33, 0.64)		
Risk reduction	54%		
Annualized relapse rate (Percent reduction compared with placebo)	0.24	0.73 (68%)	<i>p</i> <0.001
Percentage of patients relapse-free after 2 years	67%	41%	<i>p</i> <0.001
<b>MRI Endpoints</b>			
Median percentage change in volume of T2-hyperintense lesions	-9.4%	8.8%	<i>p</i> <0.001
Number of new or newly-enlarging T2-hyperintense lesions			<i>p</i> <0.001
Mean	1.9	11.0	
Percent reduction compared with placebo	83%		
Median	0.0	5.0	<i>p</i> <0.001
Percentage of patients with:			<i>p</i> <0.001
0 lesions	57%	15%	
1 lesion	17%	10%	
2 lesions	8%	8%	
3 or more lesions	18%	68%	
Number of Gd-enhancing Lesions			<i>p</i> <0.001
Mean	0.1	1.2	
Percent reduction compared with placebo	92%		
Median	0.0	0.0	<i>p</i> <0.001
Percentage of patients with:			<i>p</i> <0.001
0 lesions	97%	72%	
1 lesion	2%	12%	
2 or more lesions	1%	16%	

\*All analyses were intent-to-treat.

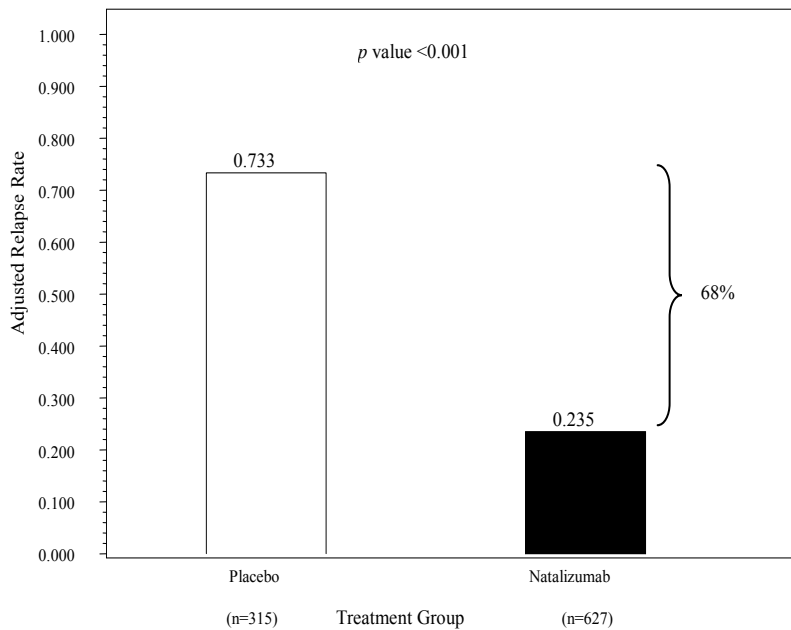
**Figure 3: Time to Sustained Progression of Disability as Measured by Increase in EDSS in AFFIRM (1801)**



NOTE: Sustained progression of disability is defined as at least 1.0 point increase on the EDSS from a baseline EDSS  $\geq 1.0$  sustained for 12 weeks or at least a 1.5 point increase on the EDSS from a baseline EDSS of 0 sustained for 12 weeks.

- (a) Log Rank p-value.
- (b) Hazard ratio (natalizumab/placebo) estimated from a Cox proportional hazards model adjusting for baseline EDSS and age (<40 versus  $\geq 40$ )
- (c) Kaplan Meier estimate of the percentage of subjects expected to have sustained progression within 2 Years

**Figure 4: Annualized Relapse Rates in AFFIRM (1801)**



Comparing studies 1801 and 1802, at baseline, those patients in 1802 had, on average, longer disease duration and higher EDSS scores than patients in study 1801.

The efficacy of TYSABRI alone was not compared with the efficacy of TYSABRI plus AVONEX.

**Other Clinical Endpoints:**

**Brain Atrophy:**

Brain parenchymal fraction (BPF) is a marker of the destructive pathologic process ongoing in relapsing MS patients, with changes measuring a loss of brain tissue.

In the monotherapy study, 1801, the BPF interval changes at 1 year and 2 years suggests a pattern that differs between the placebo and treated groups. Although both groups exhibited a decrease in BPF from baseline to year 1, there was a relatively greater reduction in the natalizumab group compared to the placebo group (natalizumab vs. placebo: 0.56% vs. 0.40%,  $p=0.002$ ). Between 1 and 2 years, the placebo group again demonstrated an equivalent reduction in brain volume (0.43%) comparable to year 1 while the reduction observed in the natalizumab-treated group decreased to 0.24% indicating a significant slowing of atrophy compared to the placebo group ( $p= 0.004$ ).

From baseline to 1 year the placebo- and natalizumab-treated groups had a decreased BPF during the first year with a relatively greater reduction in the natalizumab treated groups. The disproportionate reduction in the natalizumab-treated groups during the first year is likely due to an acute reduction in inflammation and edema. The lower rate of atrophy seen in the second year of each study likely reflects the significant anti-inflammatory treatment effects of natalizumab on atrophy progression.

**Hospitalization:**

The number of hospitalizations was recorded in phase 3 studies. Table 6 summarizes the number of hospitalizations whose primary reason was categorized as MS relapse, MS-related complication, elective surgery or “other”. The number of hospitalizations for MS-related or MS relapses, reported separately, followed a similar pattern to all hospitalizations.

**Table 6: Rate of Hospitalization**

	AFFIRM (1801)		
	Placebo	TYSABRI	
Number of subjects with a hospitalization (%)	77 (24%)	114 (18%)	
Total number of hospitalizations	125	156	
Annualized hospitalization rate (95% CI)	0.183 (0.142, 0.236)	0.112 (0.089, 0.140)	Rate ratio 0.612 (0.436, 0.858) $p=0.005$
Number of subjects with MS-related hospitalizations (%)	41 (13%)	37 (6%)	
Total number of MS-related hospitalizations	66	48	
Annualized MS-related hospitalization rate (95% CI)	0.097 (0.070, 0.133)	0.034 (0.024, 0.050)	Rate ratio 0.356 (0.218, 0.582) $p<0.001$

**Quality of Life (QOL):**

The Multiple Sclerosis Quality of Life Index (MSQLI) consists of several scales to measure important symptoms experienced by MS patients as part of their disease. Patients treated with

TYSABRI alone showed on average an increase in both the physical and mental component scores of the SF-36 indicating improvement, whereas those who received placebo showed worsening on average ( $p \leq 0.01$ ). No statistically significant differences were observed between treatment groups on the non-SF-36 components. Indeed, there were minimal changes in either group on many of these measures.

Patients were asked how they were feeling during the study and to mark this on a 10 cm Visual Analogue Scale (VAS), with 0 as “poor” and 100 as “excellent”. On average, patients treated with TYSABRI had a significant effect on sense of well-being vs. patients treated with placebo using the VAS ( $p=0.007$ ).

### **Subgroup Analyses of Efficacy:**

Results for disability progression and clinical relapses have been tabulated by baseline EDSS ( $\leq 3.5$ ,  $>3.5$ ), the number of T2 lesions at baseline ( $<9$ ,  $\geq 9$ ), presence or absence of Gd-lesions and age at baseline ( $<40$ ,  $\geq 40$  years).

TYSABRI consistently delayed disability progression and reduced relapse rates in most clinical subpopulations, even those with the highest degree of disease activity. Although the subgroup of patients with fewer than 9 T2 lesions at baseline showed a treatment effect on the secondary MRI outcome measures, they did not show a similar effect on the primary clinical outcome measures; this may be due to the small numbers in this group. To the contrary, a significant effect was seen in those subjects with 9 or more T2 lesions at baseline. Patients with MS defined by McDonald diagnostic criteria 1 through 4 demonstrated consistent clinical responses to TYSABRI, although the subgroup defined by McDonald diagnostic criteria 1 or 2 appeared to have a greater response than criteria 3 or 4. These data indicate that the degree of MS disease activity should be a consideration when starting TYSABRI treatment.

There were twice as many women as men in study 1801. Treatment with TYSABRI was equally effective for both women and men across all 2-year endpoints.

Using the Multiple Sclerosis Functional Composite Score (Timed 25-Foot Walk [T25FW], 9 Hole Peg Test [9HPT], and the Paced Auditory Serial Addition Test 3 [PASAT3]), in study 1801, the group treated with TYSABRI showed statistically significant improvement in the overall score ( $p < 0.0001$ ), and on each parameter (T25FW:  $p < 0.0001$ , 9HPT:  $p < 0.0001$ , PASAT3:  $p = 0.005$ ) compared to the placebo-treated group.

In study 1801, there was a statistically significant relative reduction (69%  $p < 0.001$ ) in the rate of relapses treated with steroids (43% placebo-treated group vs. 13% of the TYSABRI-treated group experienced relapses).

### **Phase 2 Clinical Study**

In a randomized, double-blind phase 2 trial (MS-231), a total of 213 patients with relapsing-remitting (RRMS,  $n=144$ ) and relapsing secondary progressive (SPMS,  $n=69$ ) multiple sclerosis received either placebo ( $n=71$ ) or TYSABRI 3 mg/kg/body weight ( $n=68$ ) or 6 mg/kg/body weight ( $n=74$ ) every 28 days for 6 months. The primary endpoint was the number of new brain lesions on monthly gadolinium-enhanced magnetic resonance imaging during the 6-month treatment period. Clinical outcomes included relapses and self-reported well-being. The results indicated that both groups treated with TYSABRI had fewer enhancing lesions compared to the

placebo-treated group. This difference was statistically significant ( $p < 0.001$ ). A similar result was noted for the number of patients with a relapse ( $p = 0.02$ ), or with an objective relapse ( $p = 0.004$ ), or requiring corticosteroid treatment ( $p < 0.001$ ). Overall patients treated with TYSABRI had an improved sense of well-being using the Visual-Analog Score. During this study TYSABRI was well tolerated with a safety profile similar to that of placebo. Headache was the most common reported adverse event. The clinical significance of a trend toward an increased rate of infection in the TYSABRI-treated patients was unclear.

## **DETAILED PHARMACOLOGY**

The pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of TYSABRI (natalizumab) were evaluated in a total of three single-infusion studies in healthy volunteers and nine single- and repeat-infusion studies in MS patients. The intravenous infusion was given over 30 to 60 minutes. In the single-infusion studies, natalizumab was administered at doses ranging from 0.03 mg/kg to 6 mg/kg. In the repeat-infusion phase 2 studies, natalizumab was administered monthly at doses of 3 mg/kg and 6 mg/kg for up to 6 months. In the phase 3 studies, TYSABRI was administered monthly as a 300 mg fixed dose for a minimum of 6 months. Three studies evaluated the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of natalizumab when concurrently administered with other therapies including AVONEX<sup>®</sup> (interferon beta-1a) and glatiramer acetate.

Pharmacokinetic parameter estimates were derived using traditional methods. Serum concentration data profiles were analyzed noncompartmentally. Parameters describing the disposition of natalizumab included the maximum serum concentration ( $C_{max}$ ), area under the concentration-time curve ( $AUC_{0-last}$  and  $AUC_{0-infinity}$ ), volume of distribution (Vd), clearance (CL) and elimination half-life ( $t_{1/2}$ ).

Pharmacodynamic markers consistent with the mechanism of action of natalizumab were collected throughout the clinical studies. These markers included elevated peripheral white blood cell (WBC) and lymphocyte counts and the determination of  $\alpha 4$ -integrin receptor occupancy (% saturation) on peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC). Since WBC counts include neutrophils, which are the only major leukocyte class that does not express  $\alpha 4$ -integrins, lymphocyte counts are considered a more sensitive pharmacodynamic marker of natalizumab activity.

All subjects were screened for the development of anti-natalizumab antibodies and the effect on the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of natalizumab was evaluated.

### **Pharmacokinetic Results**

Following the single-infusion IV administration of natalizumab at doses ranging from 0.3 to 3 mg/kg and a fixed dose of 300 mg to healthy volunteers,  $C_{max}$  values were proportional to the administered dose. At doses of 1 mg/kg and greater, mean CL, Vd and  $t_{1/2}$  values were relatively consistent and independent of actual administered dose.

When administered as a 300 mg fixed dose, the pharmacokinetics of natalizumab were consistent with that observed following weight-based dosing at 3 mg/kg.

**Table 7. Summary of Pharmacokinetic Parameters Following a 30- to 60-Minute Single-Infusion Administration of Natalizumab in Healthy Volunteers (mean +/- s.d.)**

Study	Dose (mg/kg)	C <sub>max</sub> (µg/mL)	AUC <sub>(last)</sub> (µg×hr/mL)	Vd (mL/kg)	CL (mL/hr/kg)	t <sub>½</sub> (hr)
101	0.3	7.6 ± 1.9	342 ± 144	88 ± 30	1.01 ± 0.50	49 ± 13
101	1.0	22.4 ± 3.8	2272 ± 430	63 ± 8	0.44 ± 0.01	118 ± 23
101	3.0	71.8 ± 4.8	11044 ± 1157	53 ± 8	0.26 ± 0.04	202 ± 38
C-1805	300 mg*	114.3 ± 39.3	19625 ± 5539	72 ± 44	0.22 ± 0.06	234 ± 159
C-1805	300 mg <sup>b</sup>	120.3 ± 44.2	20676 ± 6933	71 ± 32	0.22 ± 0.08	230 ± 86
C-1806	300 mg*	99.7 ± 29.2	22880 ± 9408	73 ± 34	0.20 ± 0.07	266 ± 154
C-1806	300 mg*	100.3 ± 30.3	23215 ± 8113	70 ± 30	0.19 ± 0.06	263 ± 127

\*Fixed dose

Similar to healthy volunteers, following single-infusion IV administration of natalizumab at doses ranging from 0.3 to 6 mg/kg in MS patients, C<sub>max</sub> values were proportional to the administered dose. At doses of 1 mg/kg and greater, mean CL, Vd and t<sub>½</sub> values were relatively consistent and independent of the actual administered dose, as noted in the following table. The Vd was consistent with plasma volume.

**Table 8. Summary of Pharmacokinetic Parameters Following a 45- to 60-Minute Single-Infusion Administration of Natalizumab in MS Patients (Mean +/- s.d.)**

Dose (mg/kg)	Study	C <sub>max</sub> (µg/mL)	AUC <sub>(last)</sub> (µg×hr/mL)	Vd (mL/kg)	CL (mL/hr/kg)	t <sub>½</sub> (hr)
0.3	MS200	4.3 ± 0.5	204 ± 49	75 ± 12	1.45 ± 0.42	37 ± 4
1.0	MS200	13.8 ± 2.5	1627 ± 386	81 ± 10	0.64 ± 0.17	92 ± 28
1.0	MS202	23.5 ± 10.1	2044 ± 923	74 ± 91	0.57 ± 0.46	94 ± 30
1.0	MS221	22.2 ± 5.0	1793 ± 897	72 ± 31	0.62 ± 0.38	n.d. <sup>†</sup>
3.0	MS200	52.5 ± 12.0	9778 ± 1380	67 ± 17	0.31 ± 0.04	108 ± 30
3.0	MS202	70.0 ± 27.1	8920 ± 3003	75 ± 30	0.35 ± 0.11	145 ± 49
3.0	MS221	70.6 ± 18.6	8726 ± 3493	67 ± 20	0.39 ± 0.14	129 ± 46
6.0	MS221	151.9 ± 31.7	22746 ± 6293	73 ± 21	0.28 ± 0.08	143 ± 32

<sup>a†</sup>Parameter not determined.

For multiple dose determinations, pharmacokinetic measurements were conducted after the first



and sixth doses following monthly repeat-infusion IV administration of natalizumab to MS patients.  $C_{max}$  values were proportional to the administered dose at 3 or 6 mg/kg or as a 300 mg fixed dose. As shown in Table 9, mean CL, Vd and  $t_{1/2}$  values were relatively consistent and independent of the administered dose.

When administered as a 300 mg fixed dose, the pharmacokinetics of natalizumab were consistent with that observed following weight-based dosing. Mean trough serum concentrations in the phase 3 studies were very consistent between studies and ranged from 15.3 to 25.9  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ . These natalizumab concentrations were associated with mean  $\alpha 4$ -integrin saturation values in excess of 70% across studies.

**Table 9. Summary of Pharmacokinetic Parameters Following 30- to 60-Minute Repeat-Infusion Administrations of Natalizumab in MS Patients (Mean +/- s.d.)**

Dose (mg/kg)	Study	$C_{max}$ ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	$AUC_{(last)}$ ( $\mu\text{g}\times\text{hr/mL}$ )	Vd (mL/kg)	CL (mL/hr/kg)	$t_{1/2}$ (hr)
<i>Dose 1</i>						
3.0	MS201	64.1 ± 18.8	6848 ± 2631	86 ± 43	0.45 ± 0.17	143 ± 50
3.0	MS231	73.7 ± 17.3	9870 ± 2503	n.d.†	n.d.	230 ± 69
6.0	MS231	149.9 ± 18.2	20452 ± 3834	n.d.	n.d.	289 ± 112
300*	C-1801	84.8 ± 22.3	17884 ± 9165	77 ± 36	0.23 ± 0.09	249 ± 105
<i>Dose 6</i>						
3.0	MS201	61.4 ± 15.8	12021 ± 4263	42 ± 17	0.27 ± 0.10	152 ± 38
3.0	MS201	56.9 ± 14.1	14268 ± 4286	21 ± 5	0.22 ± 0.06	145 ± 42
3.0	MS231	64.2 ± 25.4	11388 ± 6252	n.d.	n.d.	202 ± 57
6.0	MS231	142.4 ± 54.9	31721 ± 13113	n.d.	n.d.	262 ± 44
300*	C-1801	94.7 ± 34.2	19609 ± 5701	81 ± 43	0.22 ± 0.06	265 ± 98

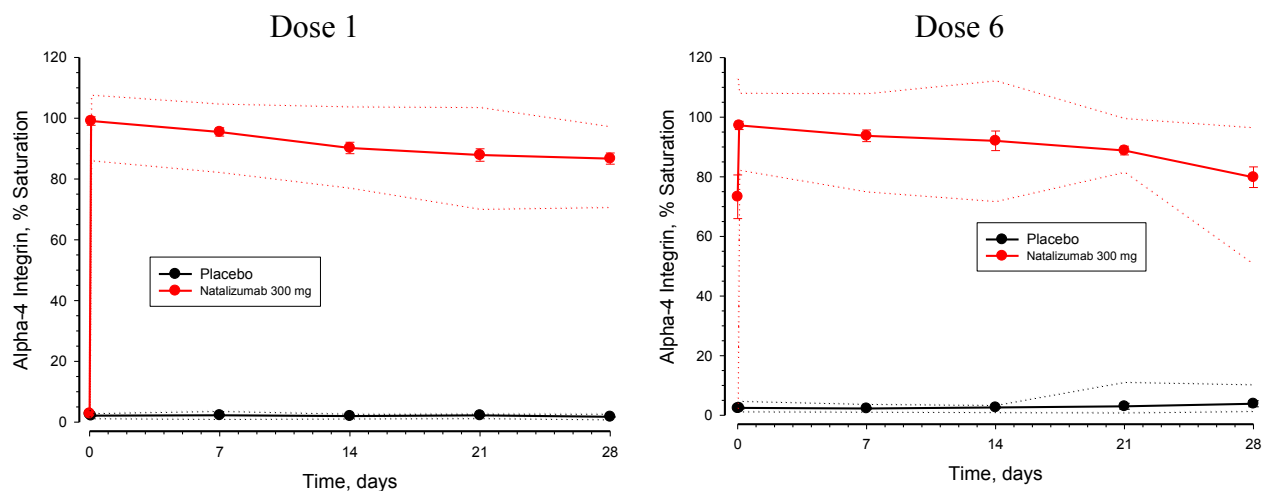
\*Fixed dose

† Parameter not determined.

## **Pharmacodynamic Results**

Results from studies where natalizumab was given as a 300 mg fixed dose in MS patients in large-scale clinical trials were considered to be most clinically relevant. The administration of 300 mg natalizumab resulted mean  $\alpha$ 4-integrin saturation that was in excess of 90% immediately post-infusion and maintained  $\alpha$ 4-integrin saturation levels of approximately 70% or greater during the entire 28-day dosing interval. Similar  $\alpha$ 4-integrin binding was observed after the first natalizumab dose and after the sixth dose, as shown in Figure 5. The reported ranges (minimum and maximum values) are represented by dotted lines.

**Figure 5. Mean Alpha4-Integrin Percentage Saturation Over Time During Monthly Dose Administration in Antibody-Negative MS Patients (Studies C-1801)**



Elevations in absolute lymphocyte counts were relatively consistent across studies. Lymphocyte counts in the natalizumab-treated subjects were elevated to approximately  $3.0 \times 10^9$  cells/L throughout the treatment periods. Following the cessation of dosing, lymphocyte counts remained elevated through Month 8 in the 3 mg/kg dose group and Month 9 in the 6 mg/kg dose group. Although elevated, the mean lymphocyte counts remained within the normal range throughout the observation period.

## **Immunogenicity**

In the 2-year studies with monthly administration, continued measurements showed that the incidence of anti-TYSABRI antibodies at a single timepoint was 10%, 6% being persistent anti-natalizumab antibodies (detected on two occasions at least 6 weeks apart) and 4% transient.

Persistent anti-natalizumab antibodies were associated with a decreased efficacy of TYSABRI and an increased incidence of infusion-related reactions. The majority of patients who became persistently antibody-positive had developed antibodies by 12 weeks. Persistent antibody-positive subjects had trough natalizumab concentrations that were consistently below limit of quantitation. This level of natalizumab exposure was correlated with consistent reduction in  $\alpha$ -4 integrin saturation on leukocytes in these persistently antibody-positive subjects. Patients who experienced transient anti-TYSABRI antibodies had a temporary reduction in natalizumab concentrations, but did *not* experience a long-term reduction in drug concentrations or activity.

## **MICROBIOLOGY**

This section is not applicable.

## **TOXICOLOGY**

Natalizumab is a human IgG<sub>4</sub> molecule and is therefore a foreign protein and immunogenic in the various species used in the toxicology program. The rate and incidence of detectable antibody formation varies with species, dose level and dosing regimen. The development of antibodies can affect the detection of natalizumab levels and can also reduce exposure to the drug through accelerated clearance. Therefore toxicokinetic sampling was performed in the majority of the chronic toxicology studies to allow for the monitoring of exposure over time.

Natalizumab treatment has been generally well tolerated in both adult and juvenile animals at cumulative exposures in the high-dose group (60 mg/kg) of up to 94-fold (mean 36, range 0.4-94) and 78-fold (mean 53, range 36-78), respectively, over anticipated human exposures (based on 6 months of dosing and a human dose of 300 mg).

In all species tested, increases in white blood cell count were associated with serum natalizumab levels above approximately 1-5µg/mL and returned to normal when natalizumab levels fell below these values. Increases were primarily the result of increases in lymphocyte counts, though increases in monocytes, eosinophils and basophils were also seen. These increases are the expected pharmacologic effect of the binding of natalizumab to  $\alpha$ 4-integrins, as  $\alpha$ 4 integrins are involved in the adhesion of leukocytes to endothelium and the subsequent trafficking of the leukocytes across the endothelium and into tissues.

Findings (some seen inconsistently across the studies) other than increased WBC counts included: increases in reticulocytes and/or nucleated red blood cells, increased spleen weights, mild to moderate follicular hyperplasia in the lymph node and spleen, and minimal to mild focal leukocyte infiltrates in the liver. Hyperplastic lymphoid follicles retained normal anatomic relationships and boundaries and were considered characteristic of follicles exhibiting polyclonal lymphocyte expansion and/or accumulation. Findings have been reversible following the discontinuation of natalizumab treatment.

Male fertility in guinea pigs was unaffected by natalizumab treatment at doses resulting in cumulative AUC exposures 38-fold times that in humans. Female fertility in guinea pigs demonstrated treatment-related effects (consisting of reduced fertility and reduced pup survival through post-natal day [PND] 14) at doses resulting in cumulative AUC exposures 40-fold times that in humans – effects were not observed at the next lowest dose level that resulted in cumulative AUC exposures 13-fold times that in humans. No teratogenic effects in guinea pigs or monkeys were seen as a result of natalizumab treatment. There was an apparent increased incidence of abortion in natalizumab-treated primates in only one of four studies that evaluated this effect, in guinea pigs and cynomolgus monkeys. Increases in nucleated red blood cells, changes in RBC parameters indicative of mild anemia, and some alterations in the distribution of immune cell populations in immune system organs were seen in the fetuses of guinea pigs and/or primates at high exposure levels (mean cumulative AUC 65-fold over human). Although no

effects were noted at the lowest dose tested, exposure at this dose was only achieved through GD44. In offspring born to mothers treated with natalizumab at 7-fold the clinical dose, reduced platelet counts were observed and were reversed upon clearance of natalizumab. There was no evidence of anemia in these offspring. Offspring exposed in utero and via breast milk had no natalizumab-related changes in the lymphoid organs and had normal immune response to challenge with a T-cell dependent antigen.

Tissue cross-reactivity studies of natalizumab with normal adult human, cynomolgus and rhesus monkey and guinea pig tissues, and with fetal human and monkey tissues were consistent with staining patterns reported in the literature and did not result in the identification of any unexpected target tissues. Findings in the chronic and reproductive toxicology studies involved some of the lymphoid organs seen to stain in these studies, but did not reveal any findings associated with the less common, nonlymphoid staining patterns.

Natalizumab was not genotoxic in a human lymphocyte aberration assay, nor did it have any effect on the proliferation of  $\alpha$ 4-expressing human tumour cells lines in vitro. Growth and metastasis of two  $\alpha$ 4-expressing tumours (a leukemia and a melanoma) were not increased in the presence of natalizumab in nude and SCID mouse human tumour xenograft models.

Overall, natalizumab-related treatment findings seen in the toxicology program were generally related (e.g., hematology changes) or believed to be related (e.g., increased spleen weights) to the pharmacological activity of natalizumab. Treatment-related effects were not associated with overt toxicity in the affected animals, and were reversible following discontinuation of natalizumab treatment and clearance of natalizumab from circulation.

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## PART III: CONSUMER INFORMATION

**Pr**TYSABRI®  
natalizumab (pronounced tie-SA-bree)

This leaflet is part III of a three-part "Product Monograph" published when TYSABRI was approved for sale in Canada and is designed specifically for Consumers. This leaflet is a summary and will not tell you everything about TYSABRI. Contact your doctor or pharmacist if you have any questions about the drug.

Keep this leaflet and the Patient Wallet Card. You should read them before starting TYSABRI, and before each TYSABRI infusion.

- It is important that you keep the Card with you during treatment and for three months after the last dose of TYSABRI, since side effects may occur even after you have stopped treatment.
- Show your Card and this package leaflet to any doctor involved in your treatment.

### ABOUT TYSABRI

#### What is TYSABRI and what is it used for?

TYSABRI is a man-made protein. It prevents the active immune cells from reaching the brain. TYSABRI is used for decreasing the inflammation in your brain (as seen on magnetic resonance imaging [MRI] scan) and therefore reduces nerve damage caused by multiple sclerosis.

TYSABRI decreases the number of MS attacks and slows down the progression of disabling effects of MS. Therefore, when you receive TYSABRI, you might not notice anything happening to your MS, but it may help to prevent your MS from becoming worse.

#### Who should not take TYSABRI?

Do not use TYSABRI if you have:

- An allergy or are sensitive to natalizumab or anything else that is in this medicine (see Allergic reaction below).
- A serious problem with your immune system (for example, due to a disease such as leukemia or human immunodeficiency virus [HIV], or from using some other medicines that weaken your immune system).
- A serious infection, including an uncommon infection of the brain called progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML) now or in the past.
- If you have active cancer.

#### What is in TYSABRI?

The active ingredient is called natalizumab. TYSABRI contains other ingredients including sodium chloride, sodium phosphate and Polysorbate 80 and water for injection. Before you get TYSABRI, it is mixed with 0.9% sodium chloride. After mixing, each dose of TYSABRI contains 406 mg of sodium. This should be taken into consideration if you are on a controlled sodium diet.

#### What dosage form does TYSABRI come in?

TYSABRI comes in the form of a liquid in a vial. The liquid contains 300 mg in a 15 mL dose (20 mg/mL) of natalizumab. The liquid must be mixed with 0.9% sodium chloride and is administered into a vein over time, which is called infusion. TYSABRI will be prepared and given to you by a healthcare professional.

### WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

There have been uncommon cases of a brain infection by JC virus resulting in progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML) and/or JCV granule cell neuronopathy (JCV GCN) occurring in patients who have been given TYSABRI. These infections are associated with an uncontrolled increase of the JC virus in the brain, although reason for this increase in some patients treated with TYSABRI is unknown. It usually happens in people with weakened immune systems, but it is difficult to predict who will get these infections. Such infections may lead to severe disability or death; there is no known cure.

In order to receive TYSABRI you must talk to your doctor and understand the benefits and risks of TYSABRI and consent to treatment prior to receiving your first treatment. After 24 months of treatment you should again talk to your doctor, understand the benefits and risks of TYSABRI treatment and consent to continuation of treatment.

TYSABRI can only be given to patients who are registered in, and meet, all conditions of the Biogen ONE® Support Program. Biogen ONE® Support Program is a controlled distribution program for TYSABRI or log onto BIOGENcareforMS.ca.

You should agree to enrol into the Canadian Biogen ONE® Support Program, which is a patient registry, by contacting 1-855-MSONE-00 (1-855-676-6300).

- **Allergic reaction**  
Some patients have had allergic reactions to TYSABRI. If you notice any of the following signs of allergy to TYSABRI during or shortly after your infusion, tell your healthcare professional (doctor or nurse) immediately:
  - Itchy rash (hives)
  - Swelling of your face, lips or tongue
  - Difficulty breathing
  - Chest pain or discomfort
- **Infections**

There have been uncommon cases of a brain infection by JC virus resulting in progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML) occurring in patients who have been given TYSABRI. PML is a serious condition, which may lead to disability or death. A condition called granule cell neuronopathy (GCN) is also caused by JC virus and has occurred in some patients

who have been given TYSABRI. The symptoms of JCV GCN are similar to PML.

Your chance of getting PML increases:

- if you have antibodies against the JC virus, the virus that can cause PML. JC virus is a common virus which infects many people but does not normally cause noticeable illness. It is also very common to have these antibodies against the JC virus. If you do not have antibodies against the JC virus, you are at a lower risk of getting PML. Your doctor may recommend a blood test to see if you have these antibodies before you start TYSABRI. If you do not have the antibodies your doctor may repeat the test every 6 months while you are taking TYSABRI.
- with a longer period of TYSABRI treatment, especially if you have been on treatment for over 24 months.
- if you have received medicines that can weaken or suppress your immune system prior to starting TYSABRI (immunosuppressants), for example: azathioprine, cyclophosphamide, methotrexate, mitoxantrone, mycophenolate.

You must carefully consider and discuss with your physician the benefits and risks of TYSABRI therapy if you have ALL of the following risk factors: anti-JCV antibody positive, have received more than 2 years of TYSABRI therapy, AND have received medicines that can weaken or suppress your immune system (immunosuppressant therapy).

A variety of symptoms of PML can appear and these can get worse over time. This is why it is important that you speak with your partner or caregivers and inform them about your treatment.

The symptoms of PML may be similar to an MS attack, including increasing weakness or clumsiness on one side of the body, trouble with vision, or trouble with thinking. Therefore, if you feel your MS is getting worse, or if you notice any new symptoms, you should speak to your doctor immediately. Symptoms might arise that you might not be aware of yourself and may include changes in mood or behaviour, memory problems, speech and language difficulties, changes in your balance or walking ability. If any of these symptoms occur, it is important that you, your partner or caregiver inform your doctor as soon as possible. Based on this information your doctor may request further testing to rule out PML.

You and your caregiver should continue to watch for any signs and symptoms of PML for at least 6 months after you stop taking TYSABRI. Tell your doctor as soon as possible if you start noticing any symptoms.

It is not known if the chance of getting PML continues to rise, remains the same, or falls after you have been on TYSABRI for more than three years.

In most TYSABRI treated patients with PML a reaction known as IRIS (Immune Reconstitution Inflammatory Syndrome) has occurred after stopping or removing TYSABRI from the blood by a treatment called plasma exchange. IRIS presents as a worsening of your neurological symptoms that may be rapid and require that your doctor treat this condition with other medicines. IRIS can lead to serious complications and may be fatal.

Because TYSABRI can weaken your immune system, you may have an increased chance of getting an unusual, serious or opportunistic infection (infection that usually does not cause disease in healthy people), such as herpes encephalitis and meningitis (inflammation of the brain and spinal cord). These infections can sometimes be life-threatening or fatal. Herpes infections of the eye have also occurred. Call your doctor right away if you have changes in vision, redness, or eye pain.

- **Liver or kidney problems**

If you have problems with your kidneys, be sure to tell your doctor. If you experience unusual darkening of the urine, nausea, vomiting, feeling tired or weak and yellowing of the skin and eyes (jaundice), call your doctor right away.

- **Pregnancy**

It is not known if TYSABRI can harm your baby if you are pregnant. You should not take TYSABRI if you are pregnant. Talk to your doctor if you become pregnant while taking TYSABRI.

- **Breastfeeding**

TYSABRI has been found in breast milk. You should not breastfeed while taking TYSABRI. You should discuss with your doctor whether you should choose to breastfeed or to use TYSABRI.

- **Other considerations**

TYSABRI is not intended for use in patients under the age of 18. TYSABRI has not been well studied in patients over 65 years old.

- Talk to your doctor if you are taking or have recently taken any other medications, including over-the-counter medicines or herbal (natural healthcare) products.
- TYSABRI can have an effect on the results of some laboratory tests showing an increase in the number of some blood cells.

**Driving and using machines**

TYSABRI is not expected to have an effect on your ability to drive or to operate machines. However, if you experience dizziness while taking TYSABRI, avoid driving or operating machines until it has resolved.

Tell your doctor about all of the medicines you take now or have taken in the last while, including those that are prescribed for you as well as those that you buy over-the-counter. It is not known if TYSABRI interacts with food or herbal (natural healthcare) products.

You may not be able to take TYSABRI with some medicines that affect your immune system.

**PROPER USE OF THIS MEDICATION**

TYSABRI can only be prescribed by a doctor who is trained in treating neurological conditions. TYSABRI will be prepared and given to you by a healthcare professional.

Usual dose: The usual adult dose is 300 mg given by intravenous infusion once every 4 weeks.

Overdose: If you receive more TYSABRI than your doctor prescribed, you should be monitored closely for any harmful signs or symptoms and given treatment for these right away, should they appear.

If you think you have taken too much TYSABRI, contact your healthcare professional, hospital emergency department or regional Poison Control Centre immediately, even if there are no symptoms.

Missed dose: If you miss your usual dose of TYSABRI, contact your doctor to schedule your appointment as soon as possible. You should then continue to receive your dose of TYSABRI every 4 weeks.

**SIDE EFFECTS AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM**

Like all medicines, TYSABRI can have side effects. If you have any worrying side effects including any that are not included here, contact your doctor or pharmacist. Show your Wallet Card and this package leaflet to any doctor involved in your treatment.

SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS, HOW OFTEN THEY HAPPEN AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM				
Symptom/Effect		Talk with your doctor or pharmacist		Stop taking drug and call your doctor
		Only if severe	In all cases	
Common	Urinary (bladder) infection		✓	
	Sore throat and runny or blocked up nose	✓		
	Shivering		✓	
	Itchy rash (hives)		✓	
	Headache	✓		
	Dizziness	✓		
	Feeling sick (nausea)	✓		
	Being sick (vomiting)	✓		
	Joint pain	✓		
	Fever		✓	
Tiredness	✓			
Uncommon	Severe allergy (hypersensitivity)			✓
	Progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML), a rare brain infection. Typical symptoms include: - progressive weakness on one side of the body - clumsiness of			✓



SERIOUS SIDE EFFECTS, HOW OFTEN THEY HAPPEN AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT THEM				
Symptom/Effect		Talk with your doctor or pharmacist		Stop taking drug and call your doctor
		Only if severe	In all cases	
	limbs - disturbance of vision - changes in thinking, memory and orientation - confusion - personality changes			
Rare	Unusual infections			✓
	Liver symptoms		✓	
	Severe anemia (decrease in red blood cells). Symptoms include pale skin, feeling breathless, lack of energy		✓	

If any of these occur during or shortly after the infusion, tell your doctor or nurse immediately.

Some patients have had allergic reactions during or shortly after receiving TYSABRI. Your doctor or nurse will stop your TYSABRI infusion if he or she sees any signs or symptoms of an allergic reaction.

After you have received TYSABRI, a doctor or nurse will monitor you for 1 hour.

Speak to your doctor as soon as possible if you think you have an infection.

*This is not a complete list of side effects. For any unexpected effects while taking TYSABRI, contact your doctor or pharmacist.*

## HOW TO STORE TYSABRI

**Unopened vial:** Store in a refrigerator at 2°C to 8°C. Do not freeze. Keep the vial in the outer carton to protect it from light. Do not shake. Do not use after the expiry date found on the vial label and carton.

**Diluted solution:** After your healthcare professional has prepared TYSABRI for injection, the diluted solution must either be used immediately or should be stored in a refrigerator (2°C to 8°C). Infusion of the diluted product should be started as soon as possible and completed within 8 hours of dilution.

### Reporting Side Effects

You can help improve the safe use of health products for Canadians by reporting serious and unexpected side effects to Health Canada. Your report may help to identify new side effects and change the product safety information.

#### 3 ways to report:

- Online at [MedEffect](#);
- By calling 1-866-234-2345 (toll-free);
- By completing a Patient Side Effect Reporting Form and sending it by:
  - Fax to 1-866-678-6789 (toll-free), or
  - Mail to: Canada Vigilance Program  
Health Canada, Postal Locator 0701E  
Ottawa, ON  
K1A 0K9

Postage paid labels and the Patient Side Effect Reporting Form are available at [MedEffect](#).

*NOTE: Contact your health professional if you need information about how to manage your side effects. The Canada Vigilance Program does not provide medical advice.*

## MORE INFORMATION

This document plus the full Product Monograph, prepared for health professionals can be obtained by contacting Biogen Canada Inc. at: Biogen ONE® (1-855-676-6300).

This leaflet was prepared by Biogen Canada Inc.

Last revised: January 2017

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