

## Journey of MS Patients in Turkey; a questionnaire based survey - injection use satisfaction

### Authors:

Tutuncu, M, Istanbul University Cerrahpaşa Medicine Faculty Istanbul, Turkey  
Demir, S, Prof. Dr. İlhan Varank Sancaktepe Training and Research Hospital Istanbul, Turkey  
Gunduz, T, Istanbul University Medicine Faculty Istanbul, Turkey  
Mavi, K, Novartis, Istanbul, Turkey  
Olmez, C, Novartis, Istanbul, Turkey  
Igde, F, Novartis, Istanbul, Turkey  
Uzunkopru, C, İzmir Katip Çelebi University Medicine Faculty, Izmir, Turkey  
Sivaci, A.O, Yüksek İhtisas Training and Research Hospital, Bursa, Turkey  
Cetinkaya Tezer, D, Prof. Dr. İlhan Varank Sancaktepe Training and Research Hospital Istanbul, Turkey  
Gumus, H, Selcuk University Medicine Faculty, Konya, Turkey  
Gungor Dogan, Ipek, Prof. Dr. İlhan Varank Sancaktepe Training and Research Hospital Istanbul, Turkey  
Piri Çınar, Bilge, Samsun University Medicine Faculty, Samsun, Turkey  
Destan Bunul, S, Kocaeli University Medicine Faculty, Kocaeli, Turkey  
Seferoglu, M, Bursa Yüksek İhtisas Training and Research Hospital Bursa, Turkey  
Siva, A, Istanbul University Cerrahpaşa Medicine Faculty Hospital Istanbul, Turkey  
Sağduyu Kocaman, A, Acıbadem Maslak Hospital Istanbul, Turkey

**OBJECTIVE:** Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a chronic neurodegenerative disease that significantly impacts young adults' disability. Our goal is to determine the current treatment status of patients and their expectations for SC treatment.

**Method:** The online survey, in which a total of 2176 MS patients participated between November 11, 2022, and December 16, 2022, was analyzed and statistically evaluated according to the questions

### Results:

Among the 2097 MS patients under treatment, 57% stated that they receive oral treatment, 19% receive subcutaneous injection treatment, and 24% receive intravenous injection treatment.

More than 9/10 of MS patients prefer subcutaneous injection as it requires less frequent application. Patients prefer less frequent application for different reasons, including problems at the injection site, pain during injection, and dislike of needles.

Patients with MS have expressed a dislike for frequent injection treatments. Instead, 43% of them prefer highly effective subcutaneous injection treatments that can be administered once a month. 66% of these patients have said that they follow their physician's recommendation due to the high effectiveness of the treatment. Injection intervals are important to more than half of these patients, and 19% of them prefer to self-administer the treatment at home

**Conclusion:** As a result, most of the MS patients prefer highly effective injection treatments as infrequent applications, but about 10% of them do not prefer it despite all these positive aspects, mostly

citing IRRs as the reason. This study shows that today there is a need for highly effective treatments that are easily applicable, well tolerated and have a low IRR.