

Reproductive Health & Pregnancy in Persons with MS



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Multiple Sclerosis is highly common in women (3:1), often affecting young women during their childbearing age. Women with MS in the reproductive age may face challenging issues in reconciling the desire for parenthood with their condition, owing to the possible influence both on the ongoing or planned treatment with the possible consequences on the disease course and on the potential negative effects of treatments on fetal and pregnancy outcomes.

A comprehensive review of the MS literature has revealed limited data on pregnancy and

breastfeeding. Nevertheless, available data has shown a likely, protective effect on MS. The risk of MS relapses decreased during pregnancy and increased postpartum. Current guidelines advise the discontinuation of any treatment during pregnancy, with possible exceptions for some treatments in patients with very active disease.

This presentation will identify current clinical knowledge about reproductive health and pregnancy in MS and review issues and clinical implications related to DMTs in reproductive health, pregnancy, delivery and breast feeding. Importantly, the association between MS, reproduction and pregnancy is bi-directional. At MS diagnosis, timely counseling should promote informed parenthood, while disease evolution should be assessed before making therapeutic decisions.