

Are your MRI contrast agents cost-effective?

Learn more about generic Gadolinium-Based Contrast Agents.



FRESENIUS
KABI

caring for life

AJNR

Reply:

P.M. Cogswell, C.R. Jack, Jr., J.A. Barakos, F. Barkhof, T.S. Benzinger, C.A. Raji, T.Y. Poussaint, V.K. Ramanan and C.T. Whitlow

AJNR Am J Neuroradiol 2023, 44 (1) E6

doi: <https://doi.org/10.3174/ajnr.A7731>

<http://www.ajnr.org/content/44/1/E6>

This information is current as of April 19, 2024.

REPLY:

In the commentary “MRI Monitoring of Anti-Alzheimer Therapy Amyloid-Related Imaging Abnormalities: Due Diligence or Overkill?” Høilund-Carlsen et al provide their viewpoint on the efficacy of monoclonal antibody therapies (mAbs) targeting beta-amyloid and the appropriate imaging for treatment monitoring and assessment of outcomes. Drug efficacy and drug safety have been assessed via multiple metrics in clinical trials of anti-amyloid therapies. Assessment of drug efficacy is a matter of clinical trial design, which we did not address in our review.¹ Amyloid-related imaging abnormalities (ARIA) are one of the many safety metrics assessed and used to determine eligibility for continued dosing; their presence may require temporary suspension or permanent discontinuation of drug dosing.²


Regarding the appropriate imaging assessment of patients undergoing therapy, we limited the scope of our review to MR imaging assessment of patients before and during anti-amyloid mAb therapy. We did not address the role of PET in clinical trials or the potential role of PET in clinical practice. Further discussion of PET is warranted and may include amyloid PET for pre- or posttreatment evaluation, as has been used in clinical trials, and FDG-PET for assessment of functional outcomes, as proposed by Høilund-Carlsen et al. In the future, it may be helpful for individuals designing clinical trials to consider functional elements in the imaging assessment of patients before and during mAbs therapy. When mAbs targeting beta-amyloid become clinically available, it will be important for the community to consider the expanded use of PET in addition to MR for imaging assessment.

REFERENCES

1. Cogswell PM, Barakos JA, Barkhof F, et al. **Amyloid-related imaging abnormalities with emerging Alzheimer disease therapeutics: detection and reporting recommendations for clinical practice.** *AJNR Am J Neuroradiol* 2022;43:E19–E35 [CrossRef Medline](#)

2. Cummings J, Rabinovici GD, Atri A, et al. **Aducanumab: appropriate use recommendations update.** *J Prev Alzheimers Dis* 2021;8:398–410 [CrossRef Medline](#)

 **P.M. Cogswell**

 **C.R. Jack, Jr.**

Department of Radiology
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, Minnesota

 **J.A. Barakos**

Department of Radiology
California Pacific Medical Center
San Francisco, California

 **F. Barkhof**

Departments of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine
VU University Medical Center
Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Queen Square Institute of Neurology and Centre for Medical Image Computing
University College
London, UK

 **T.S. Benzinger**

Departments of Radiology and Neurosurgery
Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, Missouri

 **C.A. Raji**


Departments of Radiology and Neurology
Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, Missouri

 **T.Y. Poussaint**

Department of Radiology
Boston Children's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

 **V.K. Ramanan**

Department of Neurology
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, Minnesota

 **C.T. Whitlow**

Departments of Radiology and Biomedical Engineering
Wake Forest School of Medicine
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

<http://dx.doi.org/10.3174/ajnr.A7731>