

Treatment of multiple sclerosis: current concepts and future perspectives

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Although the cause of multiple sclerosis (MS) has remained obscure, many findings support an autoimmune pathogenesis on the background of a complex interaction between multiple genes and environmental factors. Accordingly, targeting the immune system has been a rational approach for the treatment of MS. The development of disease-modifying immunomodulatory drugs with partial efficacy, coupled with advances in understanding the pathophysiology and pathology of MS, has provided momentum to explore more specific and hopefully more effective immune-based therapeutic strategies. Future treatments will likely need both to target inflammation and to focus on promotion of neuroprotection and repair. I will discuss current treatment strategies and the most promising therapeutic approaches for MS currently in the pipeline.