

# Multiple Sclerosis: Challenges to Defining and Achieving Enrollment Goals

**Alexandra Goodyear, MD, MS; Global Development Lead, Genentech**

BIO Clinical Trial Diversity Roundtable  
January 31, 2023

## Brief Overview of Situation/Background

- Multiple sclerosis (MS) trials have historically underrepresented the demographics of the disease
- Black MS patients typically accounting for <2% of Ph3 trial populations over the last decade
- As part of ongoing MS studies, we committed to a multichannel approach to improve inclusivity, including:
  - Opening additional sites
  - Optimized communications with sites
  - Optimized data collection/usage
  - Development of a Diversity Plan

# MS COMMUNITY PLACING NEW FOCUS ON INCLUSIVE RESEARCH

RESEARCH ARTICLE

## Enrollment of Non-White Participants and Reporting of Race and Ethnicity in Phase III Trials of Multiple Sclerosis DMTs

A Systematic Review

Helen-Margaret Onuorah, BA, Odelin Charron, MSc, ME, Ethan Meltzer, MD, Amanda Montague, EdM, Alexis Crispino, BA, Avery Largent, BA, Ashlea Lucas, PA-C, and Leorah Freeman, MD, PhD

*Neurology*® 2022;98:e880-e892. doi:10.1212/WNL.0000000000013230

**Correspondence**

Dr. Freeman  
leorah.freeman@

RESEARCH ARTICLE

OPEN ACCESS

## Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Multiple Sclerosis Prevalence

Annette M. Langer-Gould, MD, PhD, Edlin Grisell Gonzales, MA, Jessica B. Smith, MPH, Bonnie H. Li, MS, and Lorene M. Nelson, PhD, MS




*Neurology*® 2022;98:e1818-e1827. doi:10.1212/WNL.0000000000200151

**Correspondence**

Dr. Langer-Gould  
annette.m.langer-gould@  
kp.org

# MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS CASE STUDY ON COMMITMENT

## FENEBRUTINIB Phase 3 Studies - ONGOING

SITUATION	OPPORTUNITY	ACTIONS
 <p>FDA release Diversity Plan Draft Guidance in April 2022</p>	 <p>Investigating the enrollment trend in our Ph 3 trials relative to epi data identified significant gaps in Black representation</p> <p>The trials were midway in enrollment (30% recruited) which provided a window to impact our recruitment strategy</p>	 <p>Roche prioritized the FENEBRUTINIB studies and devoted additional resources to have impact</p> <p>The FENEBRUTINIB team quickly organized around several work packages to drive representation in our trials with cross-functional membership</p>

# MS TEAM ACTIVITIES FOR ADVANCING INCLUSIVE RESEARCH

Team quickly organized to drive representation in our trials with **cross-functional** membership

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Site Communication</b></p> <p><b>Output:</b> New AIR-specific communication with sites to educate and engage on AIR, including AIR workshop with US investigators</p> <p><b>Impact:</b> Investigators committed to and capable of AIR, resulting in improved recruitment numbers</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Broad External Communication</b></p> <p><b>Output:</b> New communication with MS community to highlight Roche commitment to AIR</p> <p><b>Impact:</b> Develop wider awareness of Roche commitment to AIR and create opportunities for partnership with MS community</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>US impact: New US Site Selection</b></p> <p><b>Output:</b> Addition of high-potential Inclusive Research sites</p> <p><b>Impact:</b> Improved recruitment of diverse patients and capability building of new sites</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Global impact: New Country Additions</b></p> <p><b>Output:</b> Addition of high-potential IR countries</p> <p><b>Impact:</b> Improved recruitment of diverse patients and capability building of new countries</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Diversity Plan &amp; Evidence Generation</b></p> <p><b>Output:</b> Diversity Plan, including Ph 3 data and beyond-Ph 3 data generation, to engage FDA</p> <p><b>Impact:</b> Come to common understanding of IR in Fenebrutinib trials with FDA in advance of filing</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Optimizing Data Collection &amp; Usage</b></p> <p><b>Output:</b> Complete and accurate reporting of race/ethnicity information (collection) as well as provide data driven insights (usage)</p> <p><b>Impact:</b> Will enable evaluation of fenebrutinib across all race/ethnicity categories enrolled in the study (collection) as well as support AIR in MS using data analytics (usage)</p>

*The following content is being provided for informational use only and not for promotional purposes.*

# The Diversity Plan and Goal-setting challenge #1

- There is a lack of race and ethnicity data for the MS population in the US and worldwide
- Roche conducted a literature review which revealed <10 studies, and only 2 of which were considered to have adequate representation and methodology to extrapolate to the US population
- There are no Global demographic numbers for MS, ex-US demographics can possibly be approached country by country
- The team used this data to set an aspirational enrollment goal

## Goal setting Challenge #2: US vs. Global

- Despite the limited data sources, this revealed the large gap between the <2% of Black MS patients typically enrolled in Global trials and the >15% of the US MS population that is Black
- Challenge:
  - Should the team be comparing US MS demographics to Global enrolment demographics or only to US enrolment demographics?
  - Should tactics employed by study teams to improve diversity be focused on US or Global?
  - When capturing in a Diversity Plan for communication with the FDA, should we present global trial or US/ex-US?