



박민수

영남대학교 의과대학 신경과학교실

## Neurologic Update: Multiple Sclerosis and Neuromyelitis Optica

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Multiple sclerosis (MS) and neuromyelitis optica (NMO) are idiopathic, inflammatory, demyelinating diseases of the central nervous system. In MS, it is recommended to treat patients early to maximize the efficacy of the currently available disease-modifying therapies. Although a variety of immunomodulatory and immunosuppressive drugs are in use, poor compliance, suboptimal response or treatment failure occurs in a number of patients and there is a need for treatment change. Recently, some new drugs are available in Korea. Their benefits and weakness will be discussed.

Clinical, laboratory, and immunologic features suggest that NMO is a humorally mediated disease distinguished from MS. Therefore, proper distinction of NMO from MS is important because the two diseases respond differentially to immunomodulatory therapy. In NMO, early recognition and effective immunosuppressive therapy are important for management of acute attack-related disability and relapse prevention. Recently several studies about seronegative NMO and diverse NMO prognosis are reported.

In this session we discuss recent issues in MS and NMO.

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