



김수현

국립암센터 신경과

## Current Approaches for the Treatment of NMOSD

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### Disclosure of conflict of interest

- ❖ I have given talks, consulted and received honoraria and/or hospitality and/or support for research activities from following companies: Bayer Schering Pharma, Merck Serono, and Teva-Handok
- ❖ I have a working relationship with the National Cancer Center, Korea.

### ◆ Treatments of NMOSD

#### ❖ Acute treatment of relapses

*High dose IV methylprednisolone*  
*Plasma exchange*

#### ❖ Prevention of relapses

#### ❖ Symptom management

### ◆ Treatments for prevention of relapse in NMOSD

#### Recommended

- Azathioprine (AZT)
- Mycophenolate mofetil (MMF)
- Rituximab (RTX)
- Mitoxantrone
- Tocilizumab
- Euclizumab
- Methotrexate

#### Poor efficacy or harmful effects

- B-interferons
- Glatiramer acetate
- Fingolimod
- Natalizumab

### ◆ Azathioprine in NMOSD

- Azathioprine is a DNA synthesis inhibitor, as it is converted to a purine analogue with interference in the purine synthesis.

- 9 published studies
- Mean/median 15-47 months
- 2-3 mg/kg/day and/or PD (5-60mg)
- pre-ARR 0.9-2.3 => post ARR 0-0.6
- 74% of improved or stabilized disability



Pros

- ❖ Low cost
- ❖ High familiarity



Cons

- ❖ High risk of insufficient response
- ❖ Side effects
- ❖ Needs for concomitants PD

Mandler, 1998, Bichuetti, 2010, Constanzi, 2011, Kaegeyamma, 2013, Elson, 2014, Mealy, 2014, Qui, 2015, Torres, 2015, Jeong, 2015

## ◆ Mycophenolate mofetil in NMOSD

- Mycophenolate mofetil is a inhibitor of inosine monophosphate dehydrogenase (IMPDH), and inhibits the de novo pathway of guanosine nucleotide synthesis without incorporation into DNA
- 4 published studies / median 20-27 months
- Oral 1500-2000mg/day
- Mean/median pre-ARR 1.3-2.6 => post ARR 0-0.3
- 91% of improved or stabilized disability



Pros

❖ Higher efficacy and less side effects compared to AZT



Cons

❖ Some patients still have relapses despite MMF therapy  
❖ High cost

Jacob, et al. 2009, Huh, et al. 2014, Mealy, et al. 2014 Torres, et al. 2015

## ◆ Rituximab in NMOSD

- Rituximab is a chimeric monoclonal antibody against the protein CD 20
- 17/ 19 published studies have reported significant effect for prevention of relapse in NMOSD.
- Mean/median 12-67 months
- Mean/median pre-ARR 1.3-2.9 => post ARR 0-0.9
- 89% of improved or stabilized disability



Pros

❖ High efficacy with tolerable safety



Cons

❖ High cost  
❖ No standard regimen

Cree, 2005/Capobianco, 2007/Jacob, 2008/Pellkofer, 2011/Bedi, 2011/Kim, 2011/Mashmod, 2011/Lindsey, 2012/Kim, 2013/Gredler 2013/Kim, 2015/Ip, 2013/Yang, 2013/Longoni, 2014/Mealy 2014/Zephir, 2014/Torres, 2015/Nosadini 2016/Annovazzi, 2016/Radaelli, 2016

## ◆ Mitoxantrone in NMOSD

- Mitoxantrone intercalates DNA and inhibits topoisomerase II, interfering with DNA repair.
- 3 published studies in total 76 patients
- Mean/median 12-41 months
- Mean/median pre-ARR 1.8-2.8 => post ARR 0.37-0.7
- 96% of improved or stabilized disability



Pros

❖ High efficacy  
❖ Cheap



Cons

❖ Risk of serious side effects  
❖ Limitation in cumulative dose (up to 72mg/m<sup>2</sup>)

Weinstock-Guttman, et al. 2006/ Kim, et al. 2010/ Cabre, et al. 2012

## ◆ Tocilizumab in NMOSD

- Tocilizumab is a humanized monoclonal antibody against the interleukin-6 receptor.
- 6 case series (n=21)
- Mean treatment duration 6-31 months
- 8mg/kg IV every 4 weeks and/or steroid or AZT
- Relapse free rate 52%
- Stabilized disability 100%
- IL-6 blockade treatment may alleviate chronic pain in NMOSD

Araki, 2012/ Kieseier, 2012/ Ayzenger, 2013/ Lauenstein, 2014/ Ringelstein 2015

## ◆ Summary of studies of immunosuppressive therapies for preventing relapse of NMOSD

	AZT	MMF	Rituximab**
Number of studies	9	4	19
Number of patients	427	121	428
Treatment duration, m	15-47	20-27	12-67
Relapse free rate (%)	51%	58%	63%
Disability worsening (%)	26%	9%	11%
Persistence (%)	71%	77%	92%
Sum of patient/year	747	236	1489

\*\*Repeated treatment with rituximab was conducted in 88% of patients.

## ◆ Comparison of treatment outcome in patients with NMOSD

### ❖ Treatment efficacy in NMOSD

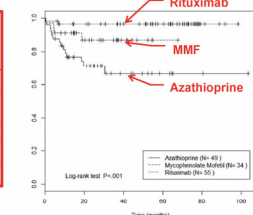
**Rituximab > MMF > Azathioprine**

Treatment associated relapse rate

Time to severe relapse

Medication	Pretreatment ARR	Posttreatment ARR	Change From Pretreatment to Posttreatment, %
Azathioprine	2.26	0.63	72.1
Mycophenolate mofetil			
Optimal dosing	2.55	0.25	90.2
Rituximab			
Optimal dosing	3.25	0.20	93.9

Mealy, 2014 JAMA Neurol



Jeong, 2015 Mult Scler

### Concerns on the use of rituximab in NMOSD

**What is the optimal regimen of rituximab treatment?**

**\*\*Conventional maintenance regimen of rituximab**  
retreatment (1000mg twice or once)  
with every 6 to 9 months interval or  
whenever CD19<sup>+</sup> B cells > 1% of lymphocyte

**=> But, these regimen was not sufficient to prevent recurrence of NMO in every patient.**

*Cree, 2005/ Jacob, 2008/ Pellkofer, 2011/*

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTION

ONLINE FIRST

### Repeated Treatment With Rituximab Based on the Assessment of Peripheral Circulating Memory B Cells in Patients With Relapsing Neuromyelitis Optica Over 2 Years

Su-Hyun Kim, MD; Woojun Kim, MD, PhD; Xue Feng Li, MD, MSc; In-Ja Jung, RN; Ho Jin Kim, MD, PhD

Research

Original Investigation

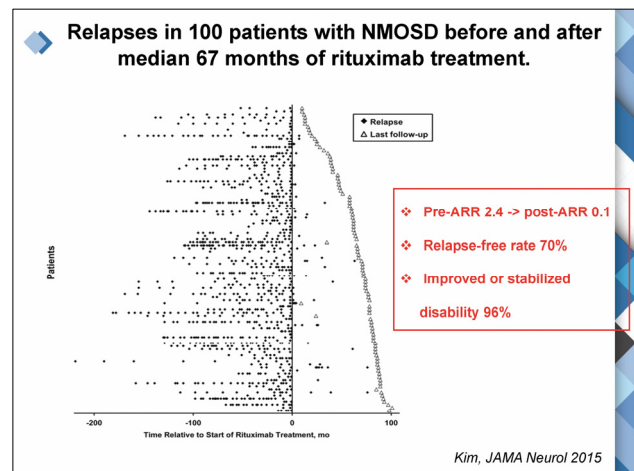
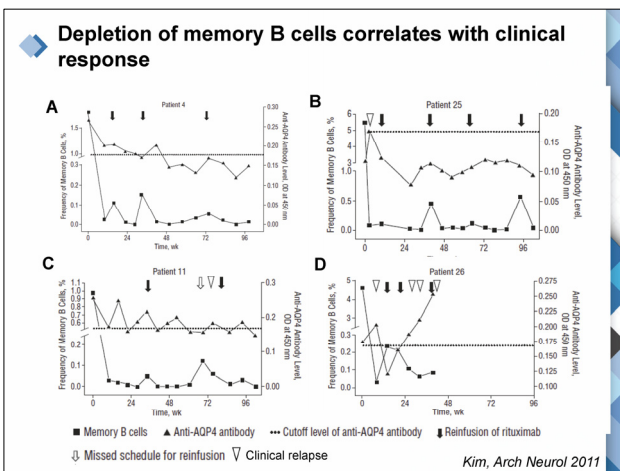
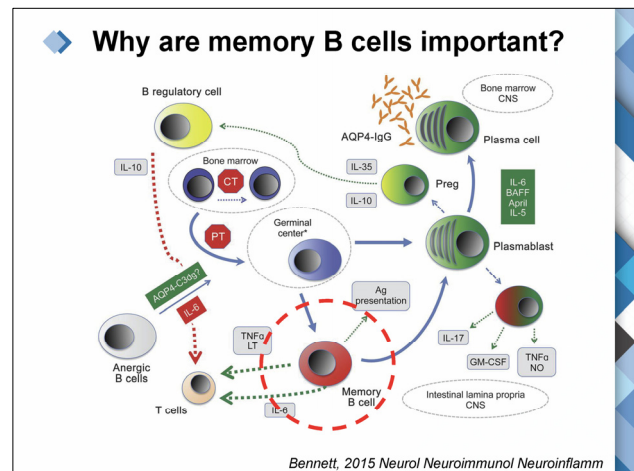
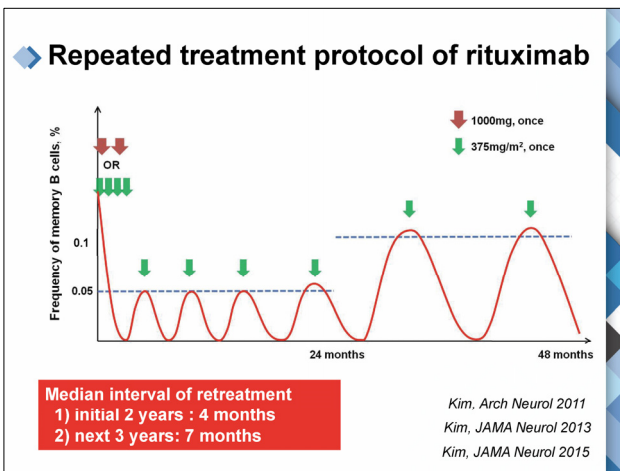
### A 5-Year Follow-up of Rituximab Treatment in Patients With Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorder

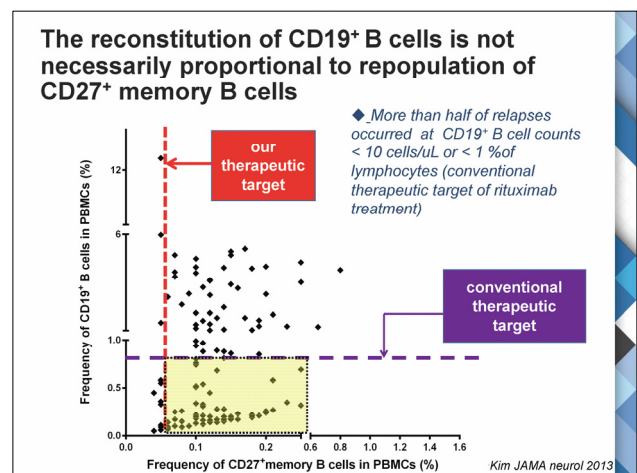
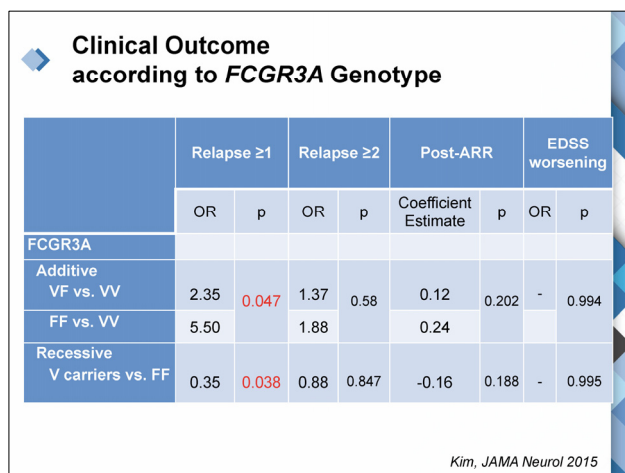
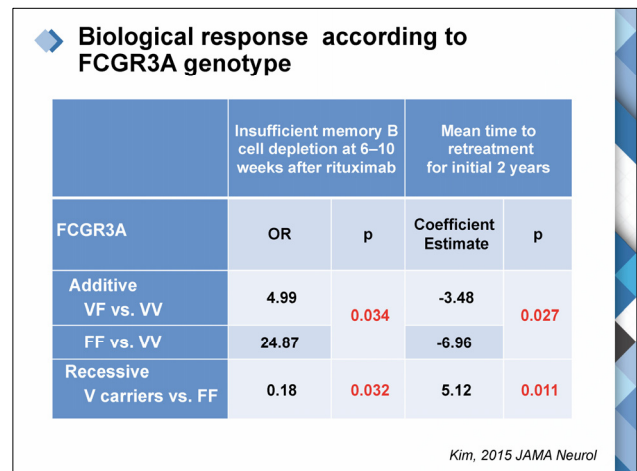
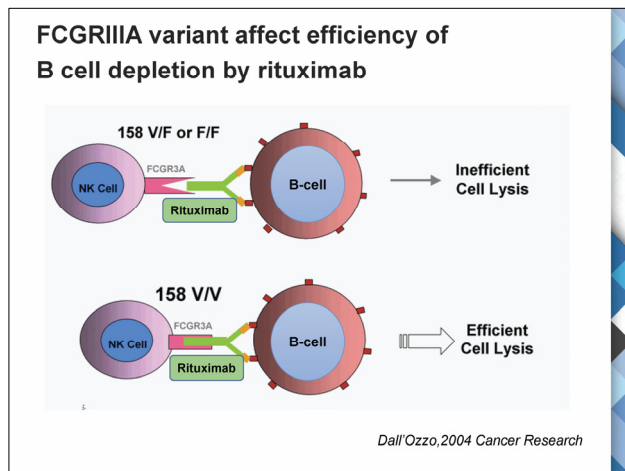
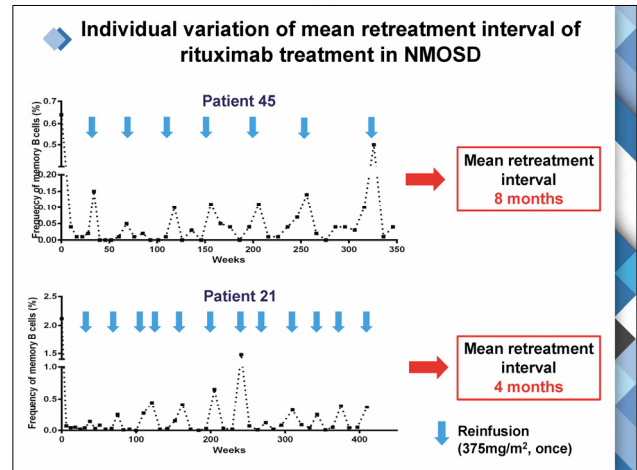
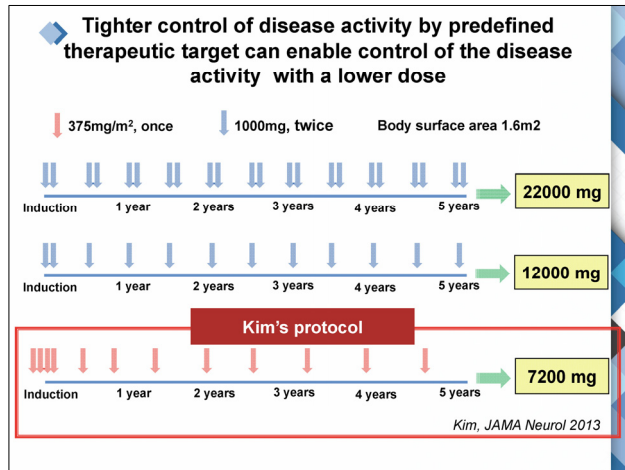
Su-Hyun Kim, MD; So-Young Huh, MD; Sun Ju Lee, MS; Aeilan Joang, RN; Ho Jin Kim, MD, PhD

Original Investigation

### Treatment Outcomes With Rituximab in 100 Patients With Neuromyelitis Optica Influence of FCGR3A Polymorphisms on the Therapeutic Response to Rituximab

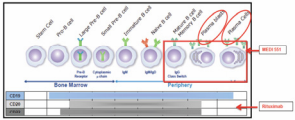
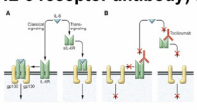
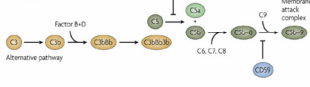
Su-Hyun Kim, MD; In Hye Jeong, MD; Jae-Won Hyun, MD; Aeilan Joang, RN; Hyeon-Jin Jo, BS; Sang-Nguyen Hoang, MD, PhD; Sochee Yuh, MD; Jungnam Joo, PhD; Ho Jin Kim, MD, PhD





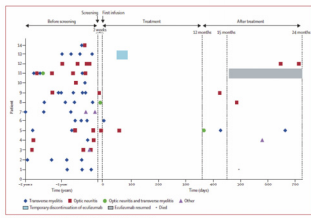


### Current clinical trials in NMOSD

- ◆ MEDI-551-anti-CD19 (N-Momentum)
 
- ◆ SA237 (anti-IL-6 receptor antibody) (Sakura Star study)
 
- ◆ Eculizumab (PREVENT Study)
 

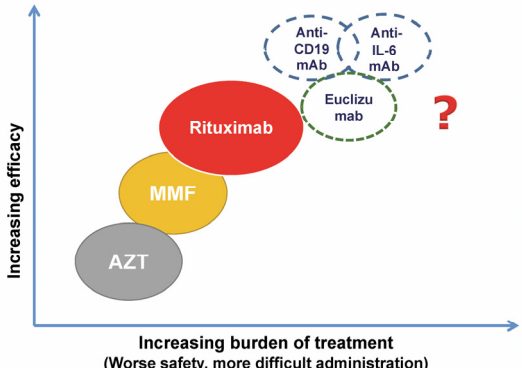
### Eculizumab in AQP4-IgG-positive relapsing neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorders: an open-label pilot study

- 14 patients with NMOSD received eculizumab for 52 weeks
- Relapse free rate: 86%
- Median ARR 3.0 (2-4) => 0.0 (0-1)
- Disability stabilized or decreased: 100%
- One patient had meningococcal sepsis, but recovered completely.



Pittock, 2013 Lancet Neurol

### Current therapeutic options for NMOSD




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