

Neuro-Pharmacology

Preferred agents:

Disease	Chronic (maintenance) immunotherapy
CIDP	Steroids, azathioprine, mycophenolate, cyclosporine
MMN	Monthly IVIG, rituximab, cyclophosphamide
Anti-Mag	Rituximab, cyclophosphamide
Polymyositis	Steroids, azathioprine, rituximab
Myasthenia	Steroids, azathioprine, mycophenolate, cyclosporine, tocilizumab, rituximab
NMO	Rituximab, mycophenolate, azathioprine, eculizumab (mayo clinic trial)
Paraneoplastic	Steroids, monthly IVIG, rituximab
GCA (arteritis)	Steroids, tocilizumab

Pregnancy category:

Class B	None
Class C	Rituximab, Steroids, IVIG, Cyclosporine, Tacrolimus
Class D	Cyclophosphamide, Azathioprine, Mycophenolate
Class X	Methotrexate
Not assigned	Tocilizumab

Immuno-modulatory Therapy

Rituximab:

- Used for: CIDP, Anti-Mag, MMN, inflammatory myopathies, Myasthenia gravis, RRMS, NMO & paraneoplastic syndromes.
- Phase I and II studies on rituximab for MS patients showed marked success, however manufacturer didn't seek FDA approval
- Infusion related reactions are thought to be related to its cytolytic effect on CD20 cells with release of cytokines
- Rituximab protocol is available at <http://neurologyresidents.com/neuro-immunology>