Fingolimod

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Fingolomid (Gilenya)

- Immunosupressive drug derived from fungus metabolite
- Originally proposed as an anti-rejection medication post-transplantation
- Acts as a superagonist to sphingosine-1phosphate receptors on the surface of thymocytes and lymphocytes, reducing the overall number of circulating lymphocytes available to mount an autoimmune reaction to the myelin sheath surrounding axons in MS.

Fingolimod in MS Treatment

- First oral drug approved to treat MS
- Approved Sep 2010
- Indicated for reducing relapses and delaying disability progression in patients with relapsing forms of multiple sclerosis
- AE:
 - most common side effects: head colds, cough, headache, diarrhea, back pain, and fatigue.
 - Serious side effects: potentially fatal infections, bradycardia, skin cancer and haemorrhaging focal encephalitis