

Moving the Needle on Alzheimer's Disease with an Anti-Oligomer Antibody

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N Engl J Med 2023; 388:80-81

In the current issue of the *Journal*, van Dyck and colleagues¹ report the encouraging results of an 18-month, phase 3 trial of lecanemab that involved participants with early Alzheimer's disease. The primary end point was the change from baseline in the score on the Clinical Dementia Rating–Sum of Boxes. Key secondary end points were the change from baseline in amyloid burden as assessed by means of positron emission tomography, the score on the 14-item cognitive subscale of the Alzheimer's Disease Assessment Scale, the Alzheimer's Disease Composite Score, and the score on the Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study–Activities of Daily Living Scale for Mild Cognitive Impairment. For each of these five end points, lecanemab was statistically better than placebo, although the effect sizes were modest. Lecanemab is one of several anti-amyloid antibodies to undergo evaluation in clinical trials but the first to show significant between-group differences in its prespecified end points. These findings raise the question of what might make lecanemab different.



SG

