

The logo for Seeking Alpha, with the text 'Seeking Alpha' in white and a gold Greek letter alpha symbol to the right, all on a dark red background.

## Biogen Idec Inc. Q3 2008 Earnings Conference Call Transcript

### Question-and-Answer Session

---

Your first question comes from Mark Schoenebaum with Deutsche Bank.

**Mark Schoenebaum - Deutsche Bank**

Okay. Thank you for taking my question guys. I am going to ask question for everyone in the queue is having to top of the list. Is it possible for you to give us any specific color about TYSABRI patient adds over the course of the quarter perhaps monthly? Like for example was August still up over July and then you saw a decline. And if possible also can you give us color on U.S. versus ex-U.S.?

**James C. Mullen - President and Chief Executive Officer**

Bill, you want to take that?

**Bill Sibold - Senior Vice President, U.S. Commercial**

Yes, sure. So looking at specifically August and September, the rate of new adds was approximately 215 per week that we saw. And that's because of the stage that it's in the early stages, vacations and anatomy [ph] and stuff, the mixture between U.S. and International is average between the two.

Again, it's still early, we consider, it's still early. Physicians are evaluating the benefits, risk equations. And the one thing that hasn't changed is TYSABRI's efficacy profile still remains extremely favorable.

**Operator**

Your next question comes from the line of Geoff Meacham with JPMorgan.

**Geoff Meacham - JPMorgan**

Hi guys. Question on drug holiday. Have you seen any trends or received feedback from neurologists just with respect to a one to two months drug holidays and what are your plans to sort of investigate this avenue? For TYSABRI of course.

**James C. Mullen - President and Chief Executive Officer**

You want to take that AI.

**AI Sandrock - Senior Vice President, Neurology Research and Development**

We have heard anecdotal reports of physicians going through drug treatment positive. We have no other data than that. We are going to be looking into our clinical trial database with respect to drug

holidays. While we had one large holiday that was imposed when we had suspended TYSABRI, we learned a lot about what happens to patients, their MRI scan etcetera. After treatment pause, we plan to investigate that further and to provide information that could be useful to patients and their physicians. We are looking into other research projects that could inform as to whether or not these drug holidays have any impact.

**Operator**

Your next question comes from the line of Geoffrey Porges with Bernstein.

Copyright © 2008 CNET Networks, Inc. All Rights Reserved.