Neurology and Therapy

- Transthyretin familial amyloid polyneuropathy (TTR-FAP) is a rare, progressive and ultimately fatal disease wherein malnutrition, wasting, and cachexia are the inevitable and cardinal signs of disease progression.
- This article describes a post-hoc analysis of nutritional status in patients with TTR-FAP due to the Val30Met variant, who participated in an 18-month randomized, double-blind study of tafamidis versus placebo followed by a 12-month extension trial.
- Overall nutritional health was measured by use of the modified body mass index (mBMI; the product of BMI and serum albumin), an easy-to-use physiologic indicator reporting on gastrointestinal function and disease progression monitor.
- Tafamidis was associated with improving or maintaining nutritional status in Val30Met TTR-FAP patients over 30 months of continual treatment as well as reversing the decline in mBMI among patients who switched from placebo treatment after the randomized, double-blind study.
- BMI increases were most pronounced in patients with low BMI at entry into the studies.

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