Defarges’ detailed letter in no way challenges our结论s. In the non comparative trials, there were 12 patients who found topiramate monotherapy satisfactory. Topiramate therefore appears to have a positive risk-benefit balance in only a minority of patients.

Marketing authorization can be granted regardless of the number of patients likely to benefit. Also, French Transparency Commission opinions do not take into account the size of the target population when estimating the ‘added therapeutic value’. In the present case, the Commission concluded that the ‘added therapeutic value’ was moderate. For our part, we concluded that topiramate offers an advantage.

In short, Thierry Moreau Defarges’ detailed letter in no way challenges our conclusions.©Prescrire International

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