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Another Day, Another Drug

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"What can we take on trust in this uncertain life? Happiness, greatness, pride -- nothing is secure, nothing keeps." ~Euripides

I am changing my MS medicine after having a recent consultation with my medical team. (By the way, I only have one doctor but saying medical team makes me feel important.)

The last time I was in the hospital, the doctors executed an MRI. I am secondary progressive and my current neurologist has not ordered a routine MRI in a while. Personally, I think it’s because there are no drugs approve specifically for progressive patients. When my doctor received my results from my hospital visit, he quickly ordered another repeat MRI because he saw something abnormal.

I was worried and my fears came to fruition when he informed me I had enhanced lesions on my brain.

He suggested a medication change and gave me a few days to do some research and think about it. The most surprising thing I learned was the new maintenance medication he suggested is also used to treat certain types of cancer.

A couple of days later, I agreed to the treatment and set up my first infusion session.

I reported to my local hospital’s infusion room and I was there from 8AM until 5:30 PM. Yes, 9 hours! The medicine is administered through IV infusion. Luckily, it is only once every 6 months. Besides being bored, everything went smooth.

Changing treatments is routinely done in multiple sclerosis. I know many people who have been on various drugs. This is especially true for those who have a more progressive form of MS. But I don’t know of many MS patients on this particular treatment. That worried me, but I still pressed forward. I just really hope this works because the whole changing medicine again thing has taken a lot out of me.
