

Supplementary Online Content

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eFigure 1. Distribution of Time Points of Visits in Relation to Diagnosis of Confirmed Disability Worsening With and Independent of Clinical Relapses

eFigure 2. NfL Dynamics in Relation to Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses in Relation to Expanded Disability Status Scale at Sampling

eFigure 3. Subgroup Analysis in Relapsing Remitting MS: NfL Dynamics in Relation to Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses

eFigure 4. Sensitivity Analysis in Patients With Complete MRI Information at Each Visit: NfL Dynamics in Relation to Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses Adjusted for Clinical and Radiological Disease Activity

eTable 1. NfL z Score (Marginal Means) in Relation to Confirmed Disability Worsening With and Independent of Clinical Relapses Compared to Stable Multiple Sclerosis

eTable 2. Mixed Effect Models Estimating Longitudinal NfL z Scores in Context of Confirmed Disability Worsening With Clinical Relapses

eTable 3. Mixed Effect Models Estimating Longitudinal NfL z Scores in Context of Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses

eTable 4. Subgroup Analysis in People With Relapsing-Remitting Multiple Sclerosis: NfL z Score (Marginal Means) in Relation to Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses Compared to Stable Multiple Sclerosis

eTable 5. Subgroup Analysis in People With Relapsing-Remitting Multiple Sclerosis: Mixed-Effects Models Evaluating Longitudinal NfL z Scores in Cases With Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses in Participants With Relapsing-Remitting Multiple Sclerosis

eTable 6. Sensitivity Analyses in SMSC Restricted to Yearly Visits: NfL z Score (Marginal Means) in Relation to Confirmed Disability Worsening

eTable 7. Sensitivity Analysis in Participants With MRI Information Available at Each Visit: Mixed-Effects Models Estimating Longitudinal NfL z Scores in Context of Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Relapses, Accounting for Clinical and Magnetic Resonance Imaging Activity

eTable 8. Association Between NfL z Score and Future Risk of Confirmed Disability Worsening with Clinical Relapses at Visit CDW-R(-1)

eTable 9. Association Between NfL z Score > 1.0 and Future Risk of Confirmed Disability Worsening with Clinical Relapses at Visit CDW-R(-1)

eTable 10. Association Between NfL z Score and Future Risk of Confirmed Disability Worsening with Clinical Relapses at Visit CDW-R(-2)

eTable 11. Association Between NfL z Score > 1.0 and Future Risk of Confirmed Disability Worsening with Clinical Relapses at Visit CDW-R(-2)

eTable 12. Association Between NfL z Score and Future Risk of Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses at Visit CDW-NR(-1)

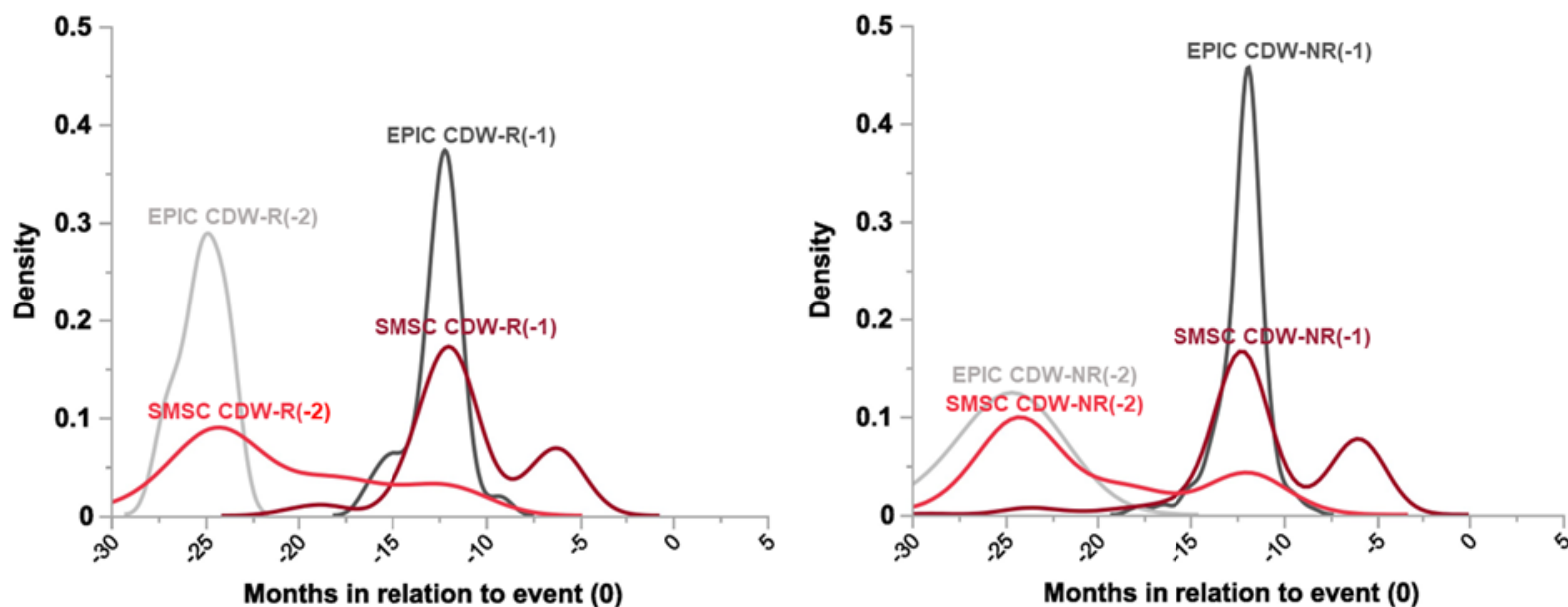
eTable 13. Association Between NfL z Score > 1.0 and Future Risk of Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses at Visit CDW-NR(-1)

eTable 14. Association Between NfL z Score and Future Risk of Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses at Visit CDW-NR(-2)

eTable 15. Association Between NfL z Score > 1.0 and Future Risk of Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses at Visit CDW-NR(-2)

This supplementary material has been provided by the authors to give readers additional information about their work.

eFigure 1. Distribution of Time Points of Visits in Relation to Diagnosis of Confirmed Disability Worsening With (A) and Independent of Clinical Relapses (B)



CDW-R: Disability worsening associated with clinical relapses, CDW-NR: Disability worsening independent of clinical relapses. CDW-R/CDW-NR(-2): Two visits preceding the event. CDW-R/CDW-NR(-1): Visit directly preceding the event. SMSC visits (red) showed bimodal distribution due to the high proportion of 6-monthly follow-up visits compared to EPIC (grey, almost exclusively yearly visits).

eFigure 2. NfL Dynamics in Relation to Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses in Relation to Expanded Disability Status Scale at Sampling

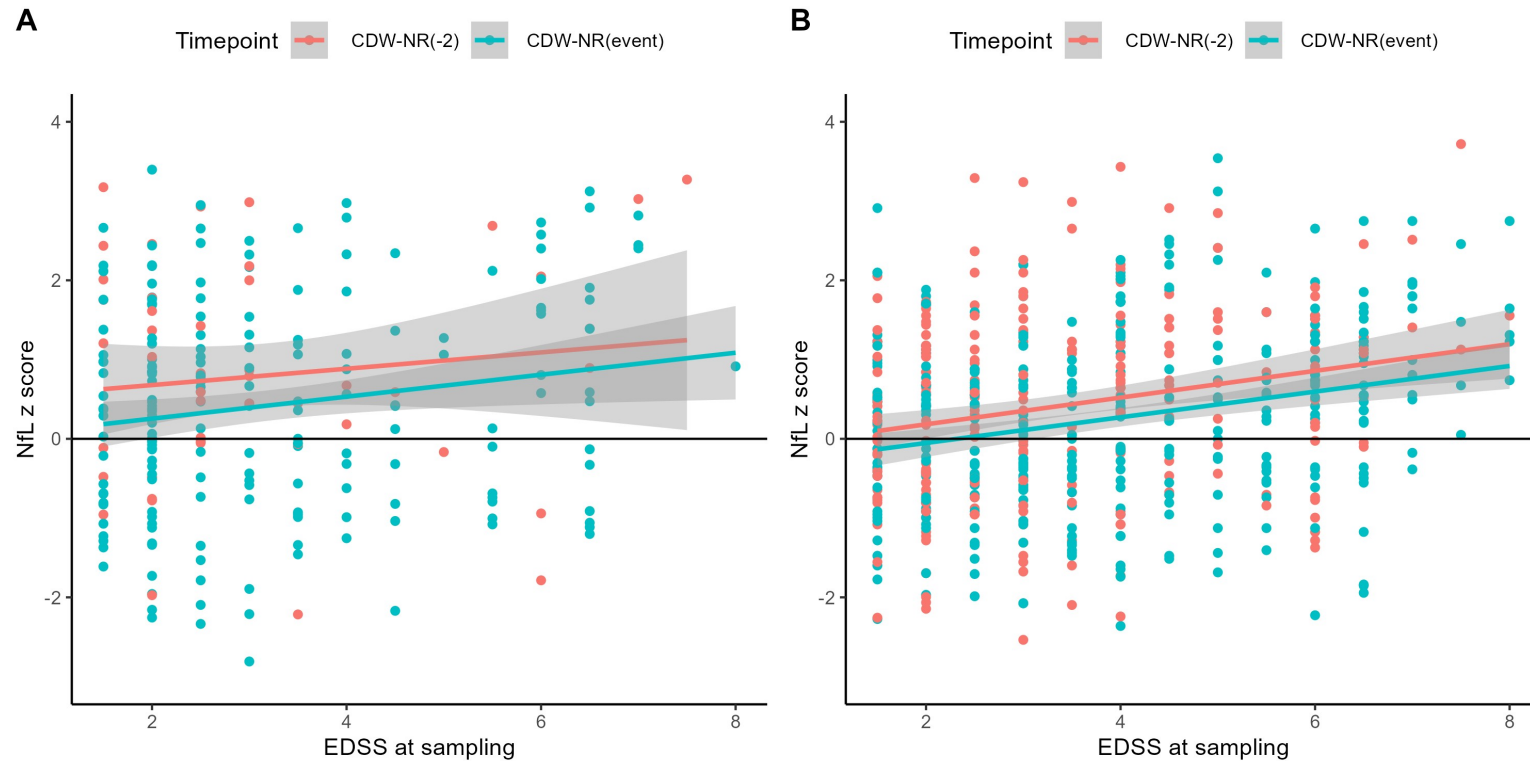
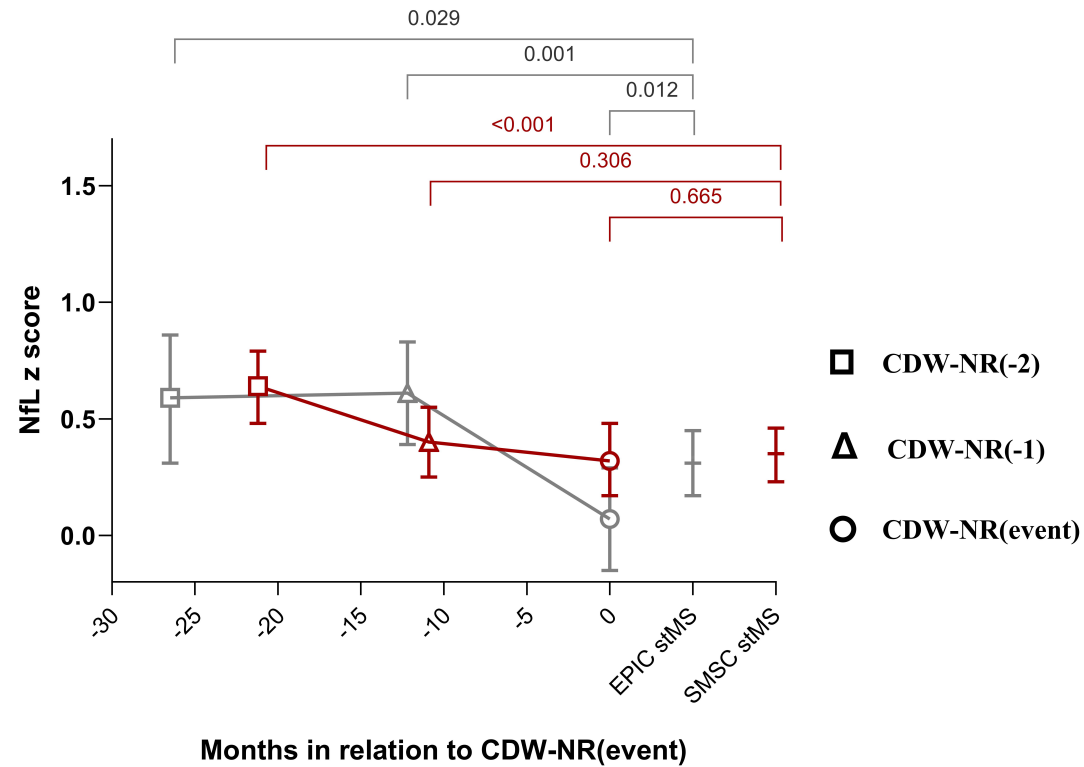


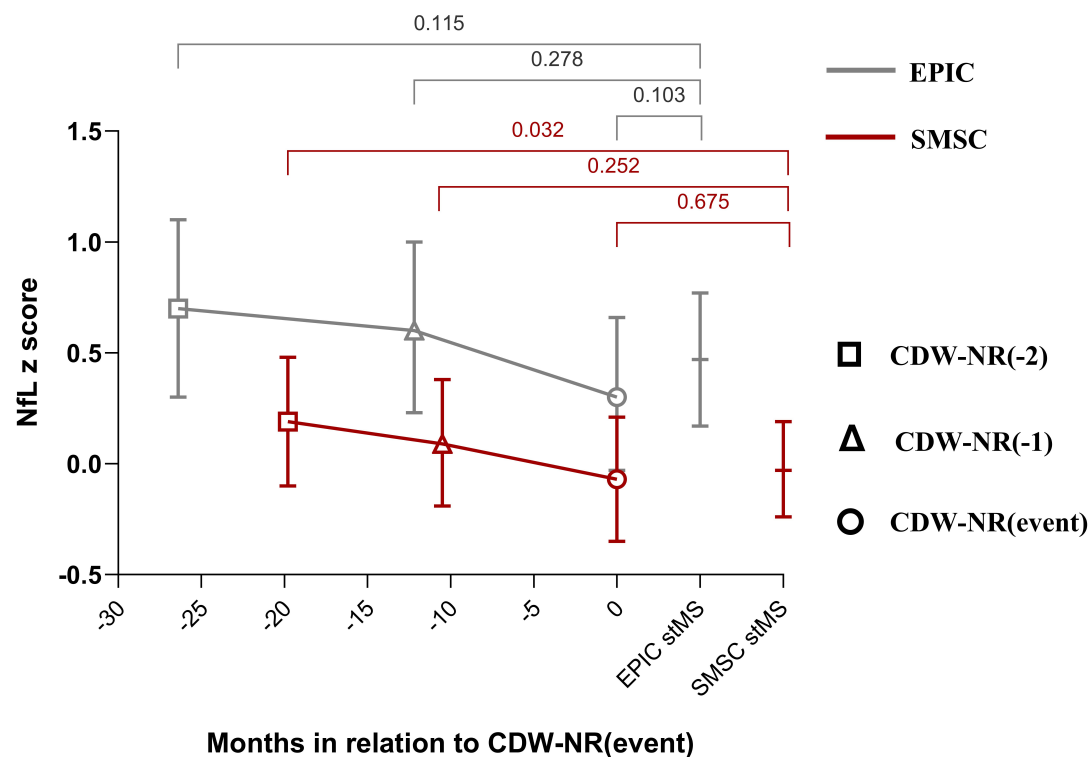
Figure showing the neurofilament light chain (NfL) z scores (y axis) at disability worsening independent of clinical relapses event visit (CDW-NR[event], turquoise) and at CDW-NR(-2) (red) in the EPIC cohort (A) and the SMSC (B) over the EDSS score at sampling (x axis). At both visits, in both studies, NfL z scores increase with EDSS at a similar magnitude /rate and are higher at CDW are on average higher at CDW-NR(-2) compared to CDW-NR(event). CDW-NR: Confirmed disability worsening independent of clinical relapses. CDW-NR(event)/(-2): CDW-NR event visit, or two visits preceding the event, EDSS: Expanded disability status scale.

eFigure 3. Subgroup Analysis in Relapsing Remitting Multiple Sclerosis: NfL Dynamics in Relation to Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses



Y axis showing the marginal means of NfL z scores and p values from mixed linear models correcting for age, sex, disease course (relapsing vs. progressive MS), DMT categories (high-efficacy monoclonal antibodies, oral DMT, platform DMT, and untreated), and recent relapse (within 90 days) for CDW-NR. CDW-NR: Confirmed disability worsening independent of clinical relapses. stMS: stable MS participants without evidence of disease activity or progression.

eFigure 4. Sensitivity Analysis in Patients With Complete MRI Information at Each Visit: NfL Dynamics in Relation to Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses Adjusted for Clinical and Radiological Disease Activity



Y axis showing the marginal means of NfL z scores and *p* values from mixed linear models correcting for age, sex, disease course (relapsing vs. progressive MS), DMT categories (high-efficacy monoclonal antibodies, oral DMT, platform DMT, and untreated), and any kind of disease activity (clinical and radiological) over the year preceding the visit of interest. CDW-NR: Confirmed disability worsening independent of clinical relapses, stMS: Stable MS participants without evidence of disease activity or worsening.

eTable 1. NfL z Score (Marginal Means) in Relation to Confirmed Disability Worsening With and Independent of Clinical Relapses Compared to Stable Multiple Sclerosis

| Visit | EPIC | | | | SMSC | | | |
|---------------|----------|---|-----------------------|----------|----------|---|---------------------|----------|
| | <i>n</i> | NfL z score (marginal means and 95% CI) | Difference vs stMS | <i>p</i> | <i>n</i> | NfL z score (marginal means and 95% CI) | Difference vs stMS | <i>p</i> |
| CDW-R | | | | | | | | |
| CDW-R(-2) | 10 | 0.52 [-0.13 – 1.16] | -0.02 [-0.65 – 0.61] | 0.956 | 85 | 0.54 [0.33 – 0.75] | 0.14 [-0.05 – 0.32] | 0.147 |
| CDW-R(-1) | 34 | 1.24 [0.87 – 1.62] | 0.71 [0.35 – 1.07] | <0.001 | 97 | 0.72 [0.52 – 0.93] | 0.32 [0.14 – 0.49] | <0.001 |
| CDW-R(event) | 36 | 0.79 [0.43 – 1.12] | 0.26 [-0.09 – 0.61] | 0.151 | 93 | 0.94 [0.73 – 1.15] | 0.53 [0.36 – 0.71] | <0.001 |
| CDW-R(+1) | 35 | 0.48 [0.10 – 0.85] | -0.06 [-0.41 – 0.29] | 0.745 | 83 | 0.55 [0.34 – 0.77] | 0.15 [-0.04 – 0.33] | 0.122 |
| stMS | 2562 | 0.53 [0.39 – 0.68] | - | - | 6019 | 0.41 [0.29 – 0.52] | - | - |
| CDW-NR | | | | | | | | |
| CDW-NR(-2) | 87 | 0.76 [0.51 – 1.01] | 0.23 [0.01 – 0.45] | 0.040 | 313 | 0.62 [0.48 – 0.76] | 0.28 [0.18 – 0.37] | <0.001 |
| CDW-NR(-1) | 182 | 0.80 [0.61 – 1.00] | 0.27 [0.11 – 0.44] | <0.001 | 357 | 0.43 [0.29 – 0.57] | 0.09 [0.00 – 0.18] | 0.056 |
| CDW-NR(event) | 191 | 0.29 [0.09 – 0.50] | -0.23 [-0.39 – -0.08] | 0.004 | 342 | 0.36 [0.22 – 0.50] | 0.01 [-0.08 – 0.11] | 0.777 |
| CDW-NR(+1) | 185 | 0.67 [0.47 – 0.87] | 0.14 [-0.02 – 0.30] | 0.090 | 299 | 0.36 [0.21 – 0.50] | 0.01 [-0.09 – 0.11] | 0.811 |
| stMS | 2562 | 0.53 [0.39 – 0.66] | - | - | 6019 | 0.34 [0.23 – 0.45] | - | - |

Estimated marginal means of NfL z score together with 95% CI and *p* values, and estimated differences in NfL z score compared to stMS from mixed linear models correcting for age, sex, disease course (relapsing vs progressive MS), DMT categories (high-efficacy monoclonal antibodies, oral DMT, platform DMT, and untreated), and recent relapse (within 90 days). NfL: Neurofilament light chain, CI: Confidence interval, stMS: Stable MS samples, CDW-R: Confirmed disability progression with clinical relapses, CDW-NR: Confirmed disability progression independent of clinical relapses, CDW-R/CDW-NR(-1): One visit preceding the event, CDW-R/CDW-NR(-2): Two visits preceding the event, CDW-R/CDW-NR(event): Visit at the time of first diagnosing of EDSS worsening, CDW-R/CDW-NR(+1): Visit confirming EDSS worsening.

eTable 2. Mixed Effect Models Estimating Longitudinal NfL *z* Scores in Context of Confirmed Disability Worsening With Clinical Relapses

| Fixed effect terms | | EPIC | | | | SMSC | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | | Estimate | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> | Estimate | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> |
| CDW-R status vs stMS | CDW-R(-2) | -0.02 | -0.65 | 0.61 | 0.956 | 0.14 | -0.05 | 0.32 | 0.147 |
| | CDW-R(-1) | 0.71 | 0.35 | 1.07 | <0.001 | 0.32 | 0.14 | 0.49 | <0.001 |
| | CDW-R(event) | 0.26 | -0.09 | 0.61 | 0.151 | 0.53 | 0.36 | 0.71 | <0.001 |
| | CDW-R(+1) | -0.06 | -0.41 | 0.29 | 0.745 | 0.15 | -0.04 | 0.33 | 0.122 |
| | Relapse samples (within a year) | 0.53 | 0.41 | 0.64 | <0.001 | 0.38 | 0.32 | 0.45 | <0.001 |
| Sex | Female vs male | 0.01 | -0.16 | 0.18 | 0.935 | 0.06 | -0.05 | 0.17 | 0.282 |
| Age (per 10 years change) | | -0.13 | -0.20 | -0.06 | <0.001 | -0.13 | -0.17 | -0.09 | <0.001 |
| Disease course at sampling | PMS vs RMS | 0.37 | 0.19 | 0.56 | <0.001 | 0.12 | -0.05 | 0.29 | 0.168 |
| EDSS at sampling | | 0.05 | 0.02 | 0.09 | 0.007 | 0.13 | 0.10 | 0.16 | <0.001 |
| DMT vs untreated | Monoclonal | -0.52 | -0.70 | -0.34 | <0.001 | -0.46 | -0.55 | -0.38 | <0.001 |
| | Orals | -0.47 | -0.65 | -0.29 | <0.001 | -0.36 | -0.45 | -0.28 | <0.001 |
| | Platforms | -0.11 | -0.22 | 0.00 | 0.054 | -0.20 | -0.32 | -0.09 | 0.001 |
| Recent activity | Relapse within 90 days yes vs no | 0.12 | -0.05 | 0.29 | 0.155 | 0.53 | 0.43 | 0.63 | <0.001 |
| BMI (EPIC only) | | -0.05 | -0.06 | -0.03 | <0.001 | / | / | / | / |

Estimated additive effects on NfL *z* score together with 95% CI and *p* values from individual multivariable mixed effects models for EPIC (left) and SMSC (right). We used an indicator variable ‘CDW-R status’ to assign each visit either a time point related to CDW-R or not and used time points outside CDW-R and not after a relapse (i.e. stable MS samples) as a reference. NfL: Neurofilament light chain, CI: Confidence interval, stMS: Stable MS samples, CDW-R: Confirmed disability worsening with clinical relapses, PMS/RMS: Progressive/ relapsing multiple sclerosis. EDSS: Expanded disability status scale, DMT: Disease modifying treatments, BMI: Body mass index.

eTable 3. Mixed Effect Models Estimating Longitudinal NfL *z* Scores in Context of Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses

| Model fixed effect terms | | EPIC | | | | SMSC | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | | Estimate | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> | Estimate | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> |
| CDW-NR status vs stMS | CDW-NR(-2) | 0.23 | 0.01 | 0.45 | 0.040 | 0.28 | 0.18 | 0.37 | <0.001 |
| | CDW-NR(-1) | 0.27 | 0.11 | 0.44 | 0.001 | 0.09 | 0.00 | 0.18 | 0.056 |
| | CDW-NR(event) | -0.23 | -0.39 | -0.08 | 0.004 | 0.01 | -0.08 | 0.11 | 0.777 |
| | CDW-NR(+1) | 0.14 | -0.02 | 0.30 | 0.090 | 0.01 | -0.09 | 0.11 | 0.811 |
| | Relapse samples (within a year) | 0.52 | 0.41 | 0.63 | <0.001 | 0.39 | 0.32 | 0.46 | <0.001 |
| Sex | Female vs male | 0.02 | -0.15 | 0.18 | 0.861 | 0.07 | 0.04 | 0.18 | 0.192 |
| Age (per 10 years change) | | -0.13 | -0.20 | -0.06 | 0.000 | -0.13 | -0.17 | -0.09 | <0.001 |
| Disease course at sampling | PMS vs RMS | 0.38 | 0.21 | 0.56 | <0.001 | 0.27 | 0.11 | 0.42 | 0.001 |
| EDSS at sampling | | 0.05 | 0.01 | 0.09 | 0.009 | 0.11 | 0.08 | 0.13 | <0.001 |
| DMT vs untreated | Monoclonal | -0.57 | -0.74 | -0.40 | <0.001 | -0.40 | -0.49 | -0.32 | <0.001 |
| | Orals | -0.50 | -0.67 | -0.32 | <0.001 | -0.31 | -0.38 | -0.23 | <0.001 |
| | Platforms | -0.10 | -0.20 | -0.004 | 0.041 | -0.12 | -0.23 | -0.01 | 0.026 |
| Recent activity | Relapse within 90 days yes vs no | 0.13 | -0.03 | 0.29 | 0.102 | 0.55 | 0.45 | 0.65 | <0.001 |
| BMI (EPIC only) | | -0.04 | -0.06 | -0.03 | <0.001 | / | / | / | / |

Estimated additive effects on NfL *z* score together with 95% CI and *p* values from individual multivariable mixed effects models for EPIC (left) and SMSC (right). We used an indicator variable ‘CDW-NR status’ to assign each visit either a time point related to CDW-NR or not and used time points outside CDW-NR and not after a relapse (i.e. stable MS samples) as a reference. NfL: Neurofilament light chain, CI: Confidence interval, stMS: Stable MS samples, CDW-NR: Confirmed disability worsening independent of clinical relapses, PMS/RMS: Progressive/ relapsing multiple sclerosis. EDSS: Expanded disability status scale, DMT: Disease modifying treatments, BMI: Body mass index.

eTable 4. Subgroup Analysis in People With Relapsing-Remitting Multiple Sclerosis: NfL z Score (Marginal Means) in Relation to Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses Compared to Stable Multiple Sclerosis

| Visit | EPIC | | | | SMSC | | | |
|---------------|----------|---|-----------------------|----------|----------|---|----------------------|----------|
| | <i>n</i> | NfL z score (marginal means and 95% CI) | Difference vs stMS | <i>p</i> | <i>n</i> | NfL z score (marginal means and 95% CI) | Difference vs stMS | <i>p</i> |
| CDW-NR(-2) | 73 | 0.59 [0.31 – 0.86] | 0.28 [0.03 – 0.53] | 0.029 | 250 | 0.64 [0.48 – 0.79] | 0.29 [0.18 – 0.40] | <0.001 |
| CDW-NR(-1) | 152 | 0.61 [0.39 – 0.83] | 0.30 [0.12 – 0.49] | 0.001 | 278 | 0.40 [0.25 – 0.55] | 0.05 [-0.05 – 0.15] | 0.306 |
| CDW-NR(event) | 151 | 0.07 [-0.15 – 0.29] | -0.23 [-0.42 – -0.05] | 0.012 | 255 | 0.32 [0.17 – 0.48] | -0.02 [-0.13 – 0.08] | 0.665 |
| CDW-NR(+1) | 143 | 0.50 [0.28 – 0.72] | 0.19 [0.01 – 0.38] | 0.043 | 215 | 0.29 [0.13 – 0.45] | -0.06 [-0.17 – 0.06] | 0.330 |
| stMS | 2108 | 0.31 [0.17 – 0.45] | - | - | 5476 | 0.35 [0.23 – 0.46] | - | - |

Estimated marginal means of NfL z score together with 95% CI and *p* values, and estimated differences in NfL z score compared to stMS from mixed linear models correcting for age, sex, disease course (relapsing vs progressive MS), DMT categories (high-efficacy monoclonal antibodies, oral DMT, platform DMT, and untreated), and recent relapse (within 90 days). NfL: Neurofilament light chain, CI: confidence interval, stMS: Stable MS samples. CDW-NR: Confirmed disability progression independent of clinical relapses. CDW-NR(-1): One visit preceding the event, CDW-NR(-2): Two visits preceding the event, CDW-NR(event): Visit at the time of first diagnosing of EDSS worsening, CDW-NR(+1): Visit confirming EDSS worsening.

eTable 5. Subgroup Analysis in People With Relapsing-Remitting Multiple Sclerosis: Mixed-Effects Models Evaluating Longitudinal NfL z Scores in Cases With Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses in Participants With Relapsing-Remitting Multiple Sclerosis

| Model fixed effect terms | | EPIC | | | | SMSC | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | | Estimate | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> | Estimate | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> |
| CDW-NR status vs stMS | CDW-NR(-2) | 0.28 | 0.03 | 0.53 | 0.029 | 0.29 | 0.18 | 0.40 | <0.001 |
| | CDW-NR(-1) | 0.30 | 0.12 | 0.49 | 0.001 | 0.05 | -0.05 | 0.15 | 0.306 |
| | CDW-NR(event) | -0.23 | -0.42 | -0.05 | 0.012 | -0.02 | -0.13 | 0.08 | 0.665 |
| | CDW-NR(+1) | 0.19 | 0.01 | 0.38 | 0.043 | -0.06 | -0.17 | 0.06 | 0.330 |
| | Relapse samples (within a year) | 0.56 | 0.44 | 0.67 | <0.001 | 0.39 | 0.32 | 0.46 | <0.001 |
| Sex | Female vs male | 0.02 | -0.16 | 0.21 | 0.807 | 0.07 | -0.04 | 0.19 | 0.207 |
| Age (per 10 years change) | | -0.12 | -0.21 | -0.06 | <0.001 | -0.13 | -0.17 | -0.08 | <0.001 |
| EDSS at sampling | | 0.03 | -0.02 | 0.07 | 0.251 | 0.11 | 0.08 | 0.14 | <0.001 |
| DMT vs untreated | Monoclonal | -0.65 | -0.86 | -0.44 | <0.001 | -0.44 | -0.53 | -0.35 | <0.001 |
| | Orals | -0.43 | -0.63 | -0.22 | <0.001 | -0.33 | -0.41 | -0.25 | <0.001 |
| | Platforms | -0.12 | -0.23 | -0.004 | 0.043 | -0.14 | -0.25 | -0.03 | 0.014 |
| Activity | Any activity within a year yes vs no | 0.17 | -0.01 | 0.34 | 0.058 | 0.57 | 0.47 | 0.67 | <0.001 |
| BMI (EPIC only) | | -0.04 | -0.06 | -0.03 | <0.001 | / | / | / | / |

Estimated additive effects on NfL z score together with 95% CI and *p* values from individual multivariable mixed effects models for EPIC (left) and SMSC (right). We used an indicator variable ‘CDW-NR status’ to assign each visit either a time point related to CDW-NR or not and used time points outside CDW-NR and not after a relapse (i.e. stable MS samples) as a reference. NfL: Neurofilament light chain, CI: confidence interval, stMS: Stable MS samples, CDW-NR: Confirmed disability worsening independent of clinical relapses, EDSS: Expanded disability status scale, DMT: Disease modifying treatments, BMI: Body mass index.

eTable 6. Sensitivity Analyses in SMSC Restricted to Yearly Visits: NfL *z* Score (Marginal Means) in Relation to Confirmed Disability Worsening

| Model fixed effect terms | CDW-R | | | | | CDW-NR | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | <i>n</i> | Estimate | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> | <i>n</i> | Estimate | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> |
| CDW(-2) | 52 | 0.44 | 0.20 | 0.69 | <0.001 | 187 | 0.20 | 0.07 | 0.33 | 0.002 |
| CDW(-1) | 72 | 0.35 | 0.14 | 0.57 | 0.001 | 228 | 0.13 | 0.01 | 0.24 | 0.038 |
| CDW(event) | 71 | 0.38 | 0.17 | 0.60 | 0.001 | 225 | 00 | -0.12 | 0.12 | 0.979 |
| CDW(+1) | 60 | 0.04 | -0.19 | 0.27 | 0.709 | 191 | -0.04 | -0.17 | 0.09 | 0.545 |
| stMS | 4244 | 0.43 | 0.30 | 0.56 | - | 4244 | 0.38 | 0.25 | 0.50 | - |

Estimated marginal means of NfL *z* score together with 95% CI and *p* values, and estimated differences in NfL *z* score compared to stMS from mixed linear models correcting for age, sex, disease course (relapsing vs progressive MS), DMT categories (high-efficacy monoclonal antibodies, oral DMT, platform DMT, and untreated), and recent relapse (within 90 days). NfL: Neurofilament light chain, CI: confidence interval, stMS: Stable MS samples, CDW-R: Confirmed disability progression with clinical relapses, CDW-NR: Confirmed disability progression independent of clinical relapses. CDW-R/CDW-NR(-1): One visit preceding the event, CDW-R/CDW-NR(-2): Two visits preceding the event, CDW-R/CDW-NR(event): Visit at the time of first diagnosing of EDSS worsening, CDW-R/CDW-NR(+1): Visit confirming EDSS worsening.

eTable 7. Sensitivity Analysis in Participants With MRI Information Available at Each Visit: Mixed-Effects Models Estimating Longitudinal NfL z Scores in Context of Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses, Accounting for Clinical and Magnetic Resonance Imaging Activity

| Model fixed effect terms | | EPIC | | | | SMSC | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | | Estimate | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> | Estimate | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> |
| CDW-NR status vs stMS | CDW-NR(-2) | 0.23 | -0.06 | 0.52 | 0.115 | 0.22 | 0.02 | 0.42 | 0.032 |
| | CDW-NR(-1) | 0.13 | -0.11 | 0.38 | 0.278 | 0.12 | -0.08 | 0.32 | 0.252 |
| | CDW-NR(event) | -0.15 | -0.34 | 0.03 | 0.103 | -0.04 | -0.24 | 0.15 | 0.675 |
| | CDW-NR(+1) | 0.25 | 0.05 | 0.45 | 0.013 | -0.14 | -0.36 | 0.09 | 0.236 |
| | Relapse samples (within a year) | 0.33 | 0.15 | 0.50 | <0.001 | -0.01 | -0.19 | 0.17 | 0.898 |
| Sex | Female vs male | 0.004 | -0.18 | 0.19 | 0.967 | 0.10 | -0.06 | 0.27 | 0.222 |
| Age (per 10 years change) | | -0.03 | -0.12 | 0.06 | 0.498 | -0.10 | -0.17 | -0.03 | 0.006 |
| Disease course at sampling | PMS vs RMS | 0.45 | 0.20 | 0.70 | <0.001 | 0.07 | -0.23 | 0.37 | 0.634 |
| EDSS at sampling | | 0.08 | 0.02 | 0.13 | 0.005 | 0.14 | 0.08 | 0.19 | <0.001 |
| DMT vs untreated | Monoclonal | -0.38 | -0.62 | -0.13 | 0.003 | -0.05 | -0.27 | 0.17 | 0.646 |
| | Orals | -0.29 | -1.37 | 0.79 | 0.595 | -0.16 | -0.35 | 0.03 | 0.103 |
| | Platforms | -0.05 | -0.19 | 0.09 | 0.514 | 0.01 | -0.25 | 0.26 | 0.966 |
| Activity | Any activity within a year yes vs no | 0.06 | -0.06 | 0.19 | 0.315 | 0.40 | 0.28 | 0.51 | <0.001 |
| BMI (EPIC only) | | -0.06 | -0.07 | -0.04 | <0.001 | / | / | / | / |

Estimated additive effects on NfL z score together with 95% CI and *p* values from individual multivariable mixed effects models for EPIC (left) and SMSC (right). We used an indicator variable ‘CDW-NR status’ to assign each visit either a time point related to CDW-NR or not and used time points outside CDW-NR and not after a relapse (i.e. stable MS samples) as a reference. NfL: Neurofilament light chain, CI: Confidence interval, stMS: Stable MS samples, CDW-NR: Confirmed disability worsening independent of clinical relapses, EDSS: Expanded disability status scale, DMT: Disease modifying treatments, BMI: Body mass index.

eTable 8. Association Between NfL z Score and Future Risk of Confirmed Disability Worsening with Clinical Relapses at Visit CDW-R(-1)

| Variables | | EPIC | | | | SMSC | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | | HR | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> | HR | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> |
| NfL z score (continuous scale) | | 1.19 | 0.97 | 1.47 | 0.096 | 1.20 | 0.99 | 1.46 | 0.060 |
| Sex | Female vs male | 1.28 | 0.61 | 2.66 | 0.514 | 0.98 | 0.64 | 1.49 | 0.920 |
| Age (per 10 years change) | | 0.88 | 0.59 | 1.3 | 0.510 | 0.83 | 0.69 | 1.00 | 0.049 |
| Disease course at sampling | PMS vs RMS | 2.71 | 0.56 | 13.17 | 0.218 | 0.60 | 0.24 | 1.53 | 0.286 |
| EDSS at baseline | | 0.66 | 0.44 | 1 | 0.050 | 1.07 | 0.90 | 1.26 | 0.456 |
| DMT vs untreated* | Monoclonal | 1.03 | 0.51 | 2.06 | 0.933 | 0.58 | 0.31 | 1.06 | 0.077 |
| | Orals | | | | | 0.82 | 0.46 | 1.45 | 0.490 |
| | Platforms | | | | | 0.44 | 0.16 | 1.21 | 0.112 |
| Recent activity | Relapse within 90 days yes vs no | 1.49 | 0.48 | 4.64 | 0.493 | 2.1 | 0.98 | 4.37 | 0.057 |
| BMI (EPIC only) | | 1.05 | 1.00 | 1.11 | 0.071 | / | / | / | / |

Estimated hazard ratios (HR) from a multivariable time-to-CDW-R Cox regression model using NfL z score as a time-varying covariate. NfL: Neurofilament light chain, CDW-R: Confirmed disability worsening with clinical relapses, CDW-R(-1): One visit preceding the event, CI: Confidence interval, PMS/RMS: Progressive/ relapsing multiple sclerosis. EDSS: Expanded disability status scale, DMT: Disease modifying treatments, BMI: Body mass index. *DMT group were merged in EPIC due to the low number of events in each group separately

eTable 9. Association Between NfL z Score > 1.0 and Future Risk of Confirmed Disability Worsening with Clinical Relapses at Visit CDW-R(-1)

| Variables | | EPIC | | | | SMSC | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | | HR | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> | HR | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> |
| NfL z score > 1.0 | | 1.91 | 0.94 | 3.87 | 0.073 | 1.70 | 1.10 | 2.61 | 0.017 |
| Sex | Female vs male | 1.24 | 0.59 | 2.61 | 0.569 | 0.98 | 0.64 | 1.49 | 0.925 |
| Age (per 10 years change) | | 0.88 | 0.59 | 1.29 | 0.503 | 0.83 | 0.69 | 1.001 | 0.051 |
| Disease course at sampling | PMS vs RMS | 2.62 | 0.53 | 12.9 | 0.236 | 0.60 | 0.24 | 1.53 | 0.284 |
| EDSS at baseline | | 0.66 | 0.44 | 1 | 0.052 | 1.07 | 0.91 | 1.26 | 0.442 |
| DMT vs untreated* | Monoclonal | 1.04 | 0.52 | 2.08 | 0.905 | 0.58 | 0.32 | 1.08 | 0.086 |
| | Orals | | | | | 0.82 | 0.46 | 1.45 | 0.493 |
| | Platforms | | | | | 0.45 | 0.16 | 1.22 | 0.117 |
| Recent activity | Relapse within 90 days yes vs no | 1.47 | 0.47 | 4.65 | 0.509 | 2.11 | 1.01 | 4.39 | 0.047 |
| BMI (EPIC only) | | 1.05 | 1 | 1.11 | 0.071 | / | / | / | / |

Estimated hazard ratios (HR) from a multivariable time-to-CDW-R Cox regression model using NfL z score as a time-varying covariate. NfL: Neurofilament light chain, CDW-R: Confirmed disability worsening with clinical relapses, CDW-R(-1): One visit preceding the event, CI: Confidence interval, PMS/RMS: Progressive/ relapsing multiple sclerosis. EDSS: Expanded disability status scale, DMT: Disease modifying treatments, BMI: Body mass index. *DMT group were merged in EPIC due to the low number of events in each group separately

eTable 10. Association Between NfL z Score and Future Risk of Confirmed Disability Worsening with Clinical Relapses at Visit CDW-R(-2)

| Variables | | EPIC | | | | SMSC | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | | HR | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> | HR | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> |
| NfL z score (continuous scale) | | 0.88 | 0.63 | 1.22 | 0.441 | 1.01 | 0.82 | 1.23 | 0.956 |
| Sex | Female vs male | 1.54 | 0.46 | 5.13 | 0.485 | 1.11 | 0.69 | 1.77 | 0.672 |
| Age (per 10 years change) | | 0.97 | 0.9 | 1.04 | 0.362 | 0.80 | 0.66 | 0.98 | 0.032 |
| Disease course at sampling | PMS vs RMS | 1.89 | 0.07 | 51.92 | 0.706 | 0.36 | 0.11 | 1.22 | 0.102 |
| EDSS at baseline | | 0.78 | 0.38 | 1.62 | 0.509 | 1.11 | 0.93 | 1.34 | 0.240 |
| DMT vs untreated* | Monoclonal | 1.57 | 0.43 | 5.70 | 0.497 | 0.54 | 0.27 | 1.07 | 0.079 |
| | Orals | | | | | 0.87 | 0.48 | 1.61 | 0.664 |
| | Platforms | | | | | 0.19 | 0.04 | 0.83 | 0.027 |
| Recent activity | Relapse within 90 days yes vs no | 1.02 | 0.11 | 9.29 | 0.989 | 1.29 | 0.52 | 3.24 | 0.583 |
| BMI (EPIC only) | | 1.06 | 0.97 | 1.16 | 0.166 | / | / | / | / |

Estimated hazard ratios (HR) from a multivariable time-to-CDW-R Cox regression model using NfL z score as a time-varying covariate. NfL: Neurofilament light chain, CDW-R: Confirmed disability worsening with clinical relapses, CDW-R(-2): two visits preceding the event, CI: Confidence interval, PMS/RMS: Progressive/ relapsing multiple sclerosis. EDSS: Expanded disability status scale, DMT: Disease modifying treatments, BMI: Body mass index. *DMT group were merged in EPIC due to the low number of events in each group separately

eTable 11. Association Between NfL z Score > 1.0 and Future Risk of Confirmed Disability Worsening with Clinical Relapses at Visit CDW-R(-2)

| Variables | | EPIC | | | | SMSC | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | | HR | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> | HR | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> |
| NfL z score > 1.0 | | 0.65 | 0.19 | 2.25 | 0.494 | 1.09 | 0.67 | 1.77 | 0.726 |
| Sex | Female vs male | 1.55 | 0.47 | 5.03 | 0.470 | 1.11 | 0.69 | 1.77 | 0.673 |
| Age (per 10 years change) | | 0.97 | 0.89 | 1.04 | 0.363 | 0.81 | 0.66 | 0.99 | 0.039 |
| Disease course at sampling | PMS vs RMS | 1.88 | 0.07 | 51.97 | 0.709 | 0.36 | 0.11 | 1.20 | 0.097 |
| EDSS at baseline | | 0.78 | 0.38 | 1.61 | 0.505 | 1.11 | 0.93 | 1.33 | 0.248 |
| DMT vs untreated* | Monoclonal | 1.56 | 0.43 | 5.72 | 0.500 | 0.54 | 0.28 | 1.08 | 0.082 |
| | Orals | | | | | 0.88 | 0.48 | 1.62 | 0.679 |
| | Platforms | | | | | 0.19 | 0.04 | 0.84 | 0.028 |
| Recent activity | Relapse within 90 days yes vs no | 1.00 | 0.11 | 9.07 | 0.997 | 1.27 | 0.50 | 3.19 | 0.614 |
| BMI (EPIC only) | | 1.07 | 0.98 | 1.16 | 0.133 | / | / | / | / |

Estimated hazard ratios (HR) from a multivariable time-to-CDW-R Cox regression model using NfL z score as a time-varying covariate. NfL: Neurofilament light chain, CDW-R: Confirmed disability worsening with clinical relapses, CDW-R(-2): two visits preceding the event, CI: Confidence interval, PMS/RMS: Progressive/ relapsing multiple sclerosis. EDSS: Expanded disability status scale, DMT: Disease modifying treatments, BMI: Body mass index. *DMT group were merged in EPIC due to the low number of events in each group separately.

eTable 12. Association Between NfL z Score and Future Risk of Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses at Visit CDW-NR(-1)

| Variables | | EPIC | | | | SMSC | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| | | HR | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | p | HR | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | p |
| NfL z score (continuous scale) | | 1.19 | 1.07 | 1.33 | 0.001 | 1.02 | 0.94 | 1.10 | 0.717 |
| Sex | Female vs male | 1.29 | 0.94 | 1.76 | 0.115 | 0.88 | 0.73 | 1.06 | 0.169 |
| Age (per 10 years change) | | 1.36 | 1.14 | 1.61 | 0.001 | 1.17 | 1.07 | 1.27 | 0.001 |
| Disease course at sampling | PMS vs RMS | 3.21 | 1.98 | 5.22 | <0.001 | 2.33 | 1.67 | 3.24 | <0.001 |
| EDSS at baseline | | 0.59 | 0.51 | 0.69 | <0.001 | 1.04 | 0.97 | 1.12 | 0.283 |
| DMT vs untreated* | Monoclonal | 1.04 | 0.77 | 1.41 | 0.782 | 1.10 | 0.85 | 1.42 | 0.480 |
| | Orals | | | | | 1.19 | 0.90 | 1.57 | 0.230 |
| | Platforms | | | | | 0.81 | 0.53 | 1.24 | 0.322 |
| Recent activity | Relapse within 90 days yes vs no | 0.78 | 0.4 | 1.51 | 0.453 | 1.04 | 0.62 | 1.73 | 0.894 |
| BMI (EPIC only) | | 1.03 | 1.00 | 1.06 | 0.036 | / | / | / | / |

Estimated hazard ratios (HR) from a multivariable time-to-CDW-NR Cox regression model using NfL z score as a time-varying covariate. NfL: Neurofilament light chain, CDW-NR: Confirmed disability worsening independent of clinical relapses, CDW-NR(-1): One visit preceding the event, CI: Confidence interval, PMS/RMS: Progressive/ relapsing multiple sclerosis. EDSS: Expanded disability status scale, DMT: Disease modifying treatments, BMI: Body mass index. *DMT group were merged in EPIC due to the low number of events in each group separately.

eTable 13. Association Between NfL z Score > 1.0 and Future Risk of Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses at Visit CDW-NR(-1)

| Variables | | EPIC | | | | SMSC | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | | HR | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> | HR | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> |
| NfL z score > 1.0 | | 1.40 | 1.06 | 1.85 | 0.017 | 0.94 | 0.76 | 1.17 | 0.600 |
| Sex | Female vs male | 1.27 | 0.93 | 1.75 | 0.132 | 0.88 | 0.73 | 1.06 | 0.176 |
| Age (per 10 years change) | | 1.34 | 1.13 | 1.59 | 0.001 | 1.16 | 1.06 | 1.27 | 0.001 |
| Disease course at sampling | PMS vs RMS | 3.28 | 2.02 | 5.34 | <0.001 | 2.35 | 1.69 | 3.28 | <0.001 |
| EDSS at baseline | | 0.6 | 0.51 | 0.69 | <0.001 | 1.04 | 0.97 | 1.12 | 0.244 |
| DMT vs untreated* | Monoclonal | 1.06 | 0.78 | 1.43 | 0.717 | 1.09 | 0.84 | 1.42 | 0.500 |
| | Orals | | | | | 1.18 | 0.89 | 1.57 | 0.242 |
| | Platforms | | | | | 0.81 | 0.53 | 1.23 | 0.317 |
| Recent activity | Relapse within 90 days yes vs no | 0.8 | 0.41 | 1.56 | 0.519 | 1.06 | 0.63 | 1.77 | 0.826 |
| BMI (EPIC only) | | 1.03 | 1.00 | 1.06 | 0.062 | / | / | / | / |

Estimated hazard ratios (HR) from a multivariable time-to-CDW-NR Cox regression model using NfL z score as a time-varying covariate. NfL: Neurofilament light chain, CDW-NR: Confirmed disability worsening independent of clinical relapses, CDW-NR(-1): One visit preceding the event, CI: Confidence interval, PMS/RMS: Progressive/ relapsing multiple sclerosis. EDSS: Expanded disability status scale, DMT: Disease modifying treatments, BMI: Body mass index.

*DMT group were merged in EPIC due to the low number of events in each group separately

eTable 14. Association Between NfL z Score and Future Risk of Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses at Visit CDW-NR(-2)

| Variables | | EPIC | | | | SMSC | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | | HR | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> | HR | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> |
| NfL z score continuous | | 1.16 | 1.01 | 1.33 | 0.030 | 1.14 | 1.04 | 1.24 | 0.004 |
| Sex | Female vs male | 1.38 | 0.9 | 2.11 | 0.138 | 0.88 | 0.73 | 1.07 | 0.190 |
| Age (per 10 years change) | | 1.03 | 1.01 | 1.06 | 0.007 | 1.16 | 1.07 | 1.27 | <0.001 |
| Disease course at sampling | PMS vs RMS | 2.07 | 1.03 | 4.15 | 0.040 | 1.81 | 1.32 | 2.48 | <0.001 |
| EDSS at baseline | | 0.71 | 0.58 | 0.88 | 0.001 | 1.06 | 0.99 | 1.14 | 0.100 |
| DMT vs untreated* | Monoclonal | 1.32 | 0.89 | 1.98 | 0.171 | 1.11 | 0.84 | 1.48 | 0.462 |
| | Orals | | | | | 1.23 | 0.91 | 1.66 | 0.180 |
| | Platforms | | | | | 1.00 | 0.65 | 1.55 | 0.996 |
| Recent activity | Relapse within 90 days yes vs no | 0.75 | 0.32 | 1.77 | 0.513 | 0.54 | 0.30 | 1.00 | 0.051 |
| BMI (EPIC only) | | 1.01 | 0.97 | 1.05 | 0.714 | / | / | / | / |

Estimated hazard ratios (HR) from a multivariable time-to-CDW-NR Cox regression model using NfL z score as a time-varying covariate. NfL: Neurofilament light chain, CDW-NR: Confirmed disability worsening independent of clinical relapses, CDW-NR(-2): Two visits preceding the event, CI: Confidence interval, PMS/RMS: Progressive/ relapsing multiple sclerosis. EDSS: Expanded disability status scale, DMT: Disease modifying treatments, BMI: Body mass index. *DMT group were merged in EPIC due to the low number of events in each group separately

eTable 15. Association Between NfL z Score > 1.0 and Future Risk of Confirmed Disability Worsening Independent of Clinical Relapses at Visit CDW-NR(-2)

| Variables | | EPIC | | | | SMSC | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| | | HR | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> | HR | Lower Bound of 95% CI | Upper Bound of 95% CI | <i>p</i> |
| NfL z score > 1.0 | | 1.25 | 0.84 | 1.87 | 0.274 | 1.49 | 1.20 | 1.84 | <0.001 |
| Sex | Female vs male | 1.37 | 0.89 | 2.11 | 0.148 | 0.88 | 0.73 | 1.07 | 0.208 |
| Age (per 10 years change) | | 1.03 | 1.01 | 1.06 | 0.010 | 1.17 | 1.07 | 1.27 | <0.001 |
| Disease course at sampling | PMS vs RMS | 2.13 | 1.06 | 4.3 | 0.034 | 1.79 | 1.30 | 2.47 | <0.001 |
| EDSS at baseline | | 0.72 | 0.58 | 0.88 | 0.002 | 1.06 | 0.99 | 1.14 | 0.108 |
| DMT vs untreated* | Monoclonal | 1.34 | 0.9 | 2.01 | 0.153 | 1.12 | 0.85 | 1.49 | 0.419 |
| | Orals | | | | | 1.23 | 0.91 | 1.66 | 0.179 |
| | Platforms | | | | | 1.01 | 0.65 | 1.56 | 0.969 |
| Recent activity | Relapse within 90 days yes vs no | 0.79 | 0.34 | 1.85 | 0.588 | 0.55 | 0.30 | 1.00 | 0.051 |
| BMI (EPIC only) | | 1.00 | 0.97 | 1.04 | 0.836 | / | / | / | / |

Estimated hazard ratios (HR) from a multivariable time-to-CDW-NR Cox regression model using NfL z score as a time-varying covariate. NfL: Neurofilament light chain, CDW-NR: Confirmed disability worsening independent of clinical relapses, CDW-NR(-2): Two visits preceding the event, CI: Confidence interval, PMS/RMS: Progressive/relapsing multiple sclerosis, EDSS: Expanded disability status scale, DMT: Disease modifying treatments, BMI: Body mass index.

*DMT groups were merged in EPIC due to the low number of events in each group separately