



ACNE, ROSACEA, AND RELATED DISORDERS (INCLUDING HIDRADENITIS SUPPURATIVA)

AZELAIC ACID FOAM 15% IN THE TREATMENT OF PAPULOPUSTULAR ROSACEA: AN EVALUATION OF PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

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Introduction: Prior randomized, double-blinded, vehicle-controlled trials have been performed to evaluate the efficacy and tolerability of azelaic acid foam 15%. In the prior trials, photographic evidence of the papulopustular change in subjects was not a primary endpoint. To satisfy the need, a trial with high resolution images is required. This is a single-site, randomized, double-blind, vehicle-controlled study of azelaic acid foam 15% for the treatment of papulopustular rosacea.

Objective: This study was performed to evaluate the photographic evidence of the efficacy and tolerability of Azelaic Acid Foam 15% in the treatment of papulopustular rosacea.

Materials and Methods: Five adult subjects age 18 or older were enrolled in this 12-week open label observational study. Criteria for study inclusion were subjects that had been diagnosed with moderate to severe papulopustular rosacea (IGA score of 3 or 4) and present with a minimum of 12, but no more than 50 inflammatory lesions as well as persistent erythema with or without telangiectasia. Assessments included Investigators Global Assessment (IGA), Erythema, Telangiectasias and Facial Skin Color Assessments. Standardized and 3-D topographical photography using PRIMOS imaging was performed.

Results: Reduction in the number of papules and pustules was demonstrated at Week 12. Lower IGA scores were also observed, while telangiectasias remained consistent throughout the trial. Erythema was reduced as well. Most significantly, a clinically observable improvement in appearance was demonstrated using standardized photography and 3-D imaging revealed the transformation of many elevated papulopustular lesions to flat by Week 12.

Conclusions: 3-D Imaging is an effective and novel method of assessing efficacy of a common treatment for papulopustular rosacea. Future research may find applications of this method to other disease states.

