Backgroud: Hidradenitis suppurativa is one of the most distressing inflammatory disorders in dermatology, characterized by abscesses, nodules and fistula. However, systemic treatments are still limited.

Observation: In this independent case series, we describe the efficacy of guselkumab, an anti IL-23 antibody in the treatment of severe hidradenitis suppurativa. Beginning in 02/2018, three patients with severe hidradenitis suppurativa who had responded poorly to other treatments or had any exclusion criteria for the use of adalimumab are treated with the IL-23 antibody guselkumab. Patients were treated in the Department of Dermatology at the Klinikum Darmstadt GmbH. The treatment was assessed using the International Hidradenitis Suppurativa Score System (IHS4), visual analog scale (VAS) for pain, and Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI) scores before therapy and 2 to 3 months after induction. All patients showed a significant improvement in IHS4 clinical staging. Moreover, patients reported a significant reduction regarding the VAS for pain and the DLQI.

Key message: Due to the promising results in these patients together with the observed good tolerability we suggest that guselkumab may have a future role in treatment of HS