



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

## THE EFFICACY OF 7.5% DAPSONE CREAM VERSUS 5% BENZOYL PEROXIDE CREAM IN ACNE VULGARIS: A RANDOMIZED SINGLE-BLIND STUDY

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**Introduction:** Dapsone is a potent antibiotic with anti-inflammatory activity and demonstrated promising results in clearing acne lesions. Clinical trials in patients with acne showed that once daily application of 7.5% topical dapsone was effective, well tolerated and had good safety profile even in G6PD deficient patients.

**Objectives:** To assess the efficacy of once daily application of 7.5% dapsone cream compared to 5% benzoyl peroxide cream for patients with mild to moderate acne vulgaris.

**Materials and Methods:** A prospective, randomized, non-inferiority, single-blind parallel group study was conducted at the Dermatology Outpatient Department of Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center. Subjects were assigned randomly to either 7.5% dapsone cream group or 5% benzoyl peroxide cream group and were instructed to apply the once a day until 2 weeks to 8 weeks. Primary outcome measures include Global Acne Assessment Score (GAAS) success rate and change from baseline of inflammatory lesion counts, and adverse events.

**Results:** A total of 30 patients were enrolled and 28 completed the study. Using the paired t-test at the mean difference within the 7.5% dapsone cream and 5% benzoyl peroxide cream for the GAAS and inflammatory lesion count, both p-values are less than  $\alpha=0.05$ . Comparing the 2 groups with each other, t-test results show that 7.5% dapsone cream treatment is the same as 5% benzoyl peroxide cream.

**Conclusion:** 7.5% dapsone cream applied topically once daily is an effective, safe, and well-tolerated treatment for acne over 8 weeks. It demonstrated similar efficacy and safety as benzoyl peroxide 5% cream.

