MEDICAL THERAPIES AND PHARMACOLOGY

IXEKIZUMAB IN A REAL-LIFE, SINGLE-CENTER, OPEN-LABEL, PROSPECTIVE ITALIAN STUDY.

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INTRODUCTION: Ixekizumab is a humanized monoclonal antibody binding with high affinity IL-17A, a key cytokine in psoriasis pathogenesis. Clinical trials have provided strong evidence supporting the efficacy and safety of ixekizumab in psoriasis.

OBJECTIVE: The aim of this open-label study is to evaluate long-term efficacy and safety of ixekizumab in a real-life, single-center clinical setting.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: This prospective, real-life, single-centre study involves patients affected by moderate-to-severe plaque-type psoriasis either with or without joint involvement. Patients received 160-mg subcutaneous ixekizumab injection at Week 0, 80-mg every 2 weeks through Week 12 and afterwards 80-mg every 4 weeks. Efficacy is evaluated by Psoriasis Area Severity Index (PASI) and Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI). Scores will be collected up to two years of treatment. Results will be analyzed by Student's t-test in a descriptive statistical analysis. All adverse events observed or reported by the patients will be recorded.

RESULTS: 48 patients (27 males, 21 females) have been enrolled with a mean age of 52 years and a mean BMI of 27,28. They present multiple comorbidities: hypertension (21), hypercholesterolemia (16), cardiovascular disease (10), type 2 diabetes mellitus (6), hypertriglyceridemia (6). Before starting Ixekizumab, patients have received conventional systemic therapies : cyclosporine (38), methotrexate (34), acitretin (20). Among patients 37 have previously been treated with biologics: etanercept (29), adalimumab (13), infliximab (8), ustekinumab(9), secukinumab (4), certolizumab and golimumab. Twelve of them were bio-naive. At Baseline the mean PASI was 13,7 and mean DLQI was 15.

CONCLUSIONS: Preliminary results showed a marked reduction in PASI score and a correlated improvement of DLQI values (mean PASI at BL evaluated on 50 patients IS 13,52 and mean PASI at week 24 calculated on 21 1,31. Actually, 3 patients reached week 48 (PASI score 0.93). Further data will be added ongoing.