PSORIASIS

CERTOLIZUMAB PEGOL ON PLAQUE PSORIASIS: EFFICACY AND SAFETY AT ONE YEAR OF TREATMENT.

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Introduction: Certolizumab pegol (CZP) is a humanized antigen-binding fragment (Fab') of a monoclonal antibody approved for psoriatic arthritis (PsA) but not yet for psoriasis (PsO). In previous studies finalized to evaluate CZP efficacy on PsA, our group noticed the drug's effectiveness also on PsO symptoms.

Objective: To evaluate efficacy and safety of CZP in a small cohort of patients affected by both PsA and PsO.

Materials & Methods:Our patients were affected by PsA with mild to severe cutaneous involvement. The dosage was 400 mg at 0, 2 and 4 weeks of treatment and then 200 mg every 2 weeks. PASI score and laboratory assessments were performed at BL, 12 weeks (W12), 24 weeks (W24), 12 months (W48), 15 months (W60), 18 months (W72), 21 months (W84), 24 months (W100), 27 months (W116) of treatment. We included in our study patients treated only with CZP.

Results: 7 patients (3M and 4F mean age 62±20 years) were affected by severe plaque psoriasis. 5 patients had been previously treated with other biologic agents, two patients were naïve. Comorbidities associated with our study population were: hypertension (n=4), fat liver disease (n=2), obesity (n=2), sleep disorders (n=1), diabetes (n=2), cholelithiasis (n=1), hyperuricemia (n=1). At BL the mean PASI score was 13, PASI score decreased after W12 at 5 for 7 patients, 2 at W24 for 7 patients, 1.6 at W48 for 6 patients, 1.3 at W60 for 6 patients, 1 at W72 for 6 patients, and then remained stable at W84, W100 and W116. Severe adverse events were not reported.

Discussion:This is the first report on the efficacy of CZP as monotherapy in patients with PsA and PsO. CZP might therefore represent an effective option in the treatment of cutaneous symptoms of PsO. Further long-term data are needed in order to confirm our preliminary observations.