



PSORIASIS

ELDERLY PSORIATIC PATIENTS UNDER BIOLOGICAL THERAPIES: AN ITALIAN EXPERIENCE

Federica Ricceri⁽¹⁾ - Federico Bardazzi⁽²⁾ - Andrea Chiricozzi⁽³⁾ - Paolo Dapavo⁽⁴⁾ - Francesca Ferrara⁽²⁾ - Cristina Mugheddu⁽⁵⁾ - Marco Romanelli⁽³⁾ - Franco Rongioletti⁽⁵⁾ - Francesca Prignano⁽¹⁾

University Of Florence, Department Of Surgery And Translational Medicine, Section Of Dermatology, Florence, Italy⁽¹⁾ - University Of Bologna, Department Of Specialized, Clinical And Experimental Medicine, Division Of Dermatology, Bologna, Italy⁽²⁾ - University Of Pisa, Dermatology Department, Pisa, Italy⁽³⁾ - University Of Turin, Department Of Medical Sciences, Section Of Dermatology, Turin, Italy⁽⁴⁾ - University Of Cagliari, Department Of Medical Sciences And Public Health, Unit Of Dermatology, Cagliari, Italy⁽⁵⁾

Background: The number of psoriatic elderly patients is steadily increasing in the Western world, nevertheless they are frequently excluded from biologic clinical trials and described as a high-risk group for adverse events. Thus, there is lack of information concerning safety and effectiveness of available treatments for psoriasis in the elderly, particularly about new biologic systemic drugs.

Objective: Our aim is to describe our experience with all biological therapies currently used in the elderly (> 65 years) psoriatic patients.

Material and Methods: A retrospective multicentric review of clinic records of all psoriatic patient aged 65 years or older actually receiving biological drugs (etanercept, adalimumab, infliximab, golimumab, certolizumab pegol, ustekinumab or secukinumab) was undertaken.

Results: Our study population included 266 elderly psoriatic patients actually receiving any biological therapy (Adalimumab 31,2%, Ustekinumab 28,9%, Etanercept 20,3%, Secukinumab 15%, Infliximab 3%, Golimumab 1%, Certolizumab pegol 0,6%). The PASI score at the baseline (week 0) ranged from 4-54; mean \pm SD, $16,5 \pm 7,1$, which changed after biologic administration to $3,7 \pm 8$ at week 16, $1,6 \pm 2,1$ at week 28 and $1,2 \pm 2,1$ at week 52. Among 266 elderly psoriatic patients 25 adverse events were reported during the observation period. The most frequent event was infections with 12 (48%) reports, followed by malignancies with 4 (16%) reports.

Conclusions: To date, our study is the largest experience on the use of biological drugs in elderly psoriatic patients. We found that all biologics for psoriasis showed a great efficacy





also in elderly people and the rate and the type of adverse effects was similar to the younger patients. In conclusion the age alone should not limit our therapeutic options. Further observational study using multiple data sources is needed to evaluate long-term effectiveness and safety for elderly psoriatic patients.

