INFLAMMATORY SKIN DISEASES (OTHER THAN ATOPIC DERMATITIS & PSORIASIS)

IXEKIZUMAB TREATMENT FOR PITYRIASIS RUBRA PILARIS: PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF AN ONGOING OPEN-LABEL TRIAL

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Introduction: Pityriasis rubra pilaris (PRP) is a rare and disabling skin disease characterized by widespread scaly erythematous plaques and thick waxy palmoplantar keratoderma. Disease pathogenesis and impact on patient quality of life are poorly understood. Recently, select inflammatory pathways in psoriasis – including overexpression of Th17 – have been implicated in PRP, helping to explain the clinical overlap seen between PRP and psoriasis.

Objective: To determine whether ixekizumab, a monoclonal antibody antagonist of IL-17A, provides clinical improvement for patients with PRP.

Materials and Methods: Preliminary analysis was performed on the first seven participants to complete 12 weeks of our ongoing investigator-initiated open-label pilot trial (NCT03485976). Patients aged 18 to 99 with moderate to severe PRP (as defined by a Psoriasis Area and Severity Index [PASI] ≥ 10) receive ixekizumab for 24 weeks at the FDA-approved dosing for psoriasis. Disease activity is followed by both investigator assessments and interval patient-reported outcomes, including the Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI) and 10-point itch and pain numeric rating scales (NRS). Statistics were performed using signed-rank tests.

Results: Mean age at enrollment was 50.1 ± 12.0 years; 5/7 participants were male. Mean PASI and total body surface area involved at enrollment were 28.8 ± 6.7 and 71.9% ± 21.2%, respectively. Mean DLQI following 12 weeks of treatment decreased from 22.3 ± 4.8 to 15.7 ± 9.3 (p=0.15), with 4/7 achieving a clinically significant decrease of ≥ 4 points. Mean itch and pain NRS decreased from 7.6 ± 1.9 to 4.3 ± 2.9 (p=0.031) and 7.0 ± 1.8 to 3.7 ± 2.9 (p=0.022), respectively.

Conclusions: This study highlights the significant disease burden associated with PRP as measured by both patient-reported outcomes and investigator assessments. Preliminary analysis of ixekizumab treatment in PRP demonstrates promising trends in improving patient quality of life.