Dermatology Update 02 September 2010

Authors Mosca M. Tani C. Aringer M.

Title European League Against Rheumatism recommendations for monitoring patients with systemic lupus erythematosus in clinical practice and in observational studies. [50 refs]


OBJECTIVES: To develop recommendations for monitoring patients with systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) in clinical practice and observational studies and to develop a standardised core set of variables to monitor SLE.

CONCLUSIONS: A set of recommendations for monitoring patients with SLE in routine clinical practice has been developed. The use of a standardised core set to monitor patients with SLE should facilitate clinical practice, as well as the quality control of care for patients with SLE, and the collection and comparison of data in observational studies. [References: 50]

Authors De Ridder D. Hans G. Pals P. Menovsky T.

Title A C-fiber-mediated neuropathic brachioradial pruritus.


A 56-year-old man presented to the outpatient clinic with a 3-year history of itch within the innervation territory of C-6 of the left arm. Sudden neck movements induced intermittent paresthesias in the same dermatome. No dermatological diseases, allergies, or trauma to the affected extremity or the spine or a history of familial pruritus were reported. Neurological physical examination and electromyography revealed normal findings. Quantitative sensory testing demonstrated selective C-fiber dysfunction at C6-8 on the left, and cervical MR imaging revealed multilevel degenerative cervical spine pathology with neuroforaminal stenoses. Brachioradial neuropathic pruritus caused by cervical neuroforaminal stenosis was the final diagnosis. Treatment consisted of 2 cervical epidural steroid applications that resulted in clinical disappearance of the itch and improvement in C-fiber function on quantitative sensory testing.

Authors Nikolaou V. Stratigos A. Antoniou C. Kiagia M. Nikolaou C. Katsambas A. Syrigos K.

Title Pimecrolimus cream 1% for the treatment of papulopustular eruption related to epidermal growth factor receptor inhibitors: a case series and a literature review of therapeutic approaches. [Review] [28 refs]


BACKGROUND: Cutaneous side effects of epidermal growth factor receptor inhibitors (EGFRIs) are very frequent and well known. The aim of our study was to investigate the efficacy and safety of pimecrolimus 1% cream in the treatment of papulopustular eruption caused by EGFRIs and to review the relevant literature on therapeutic approaches.

CONCLUSIONS: Our case series shows that pimecrolimus cream may be an effective and safe approach in the management of papulopustular eruption related to EGFRIs.

Authors Amerio P. Di Rollo D. Carbone A

Title Polyglandular autoimmune diseases in a dermatological clinical setting: vitiligo-associated autoimmune diseases.


Vitiligo is an acquired hypomelanotic disorder characterized by depigmented macules resulting from the loss of functional melanocytes. Many different etiological hypotheses have been suggested for vitiligo, the most recent of which involves a combination of interacting environmental and genetic factors. Among the various pieces of evidence in support of an autoimmune origin of vitiligo, there is the epidemiological association with several autoimmune diseases. The most frequently reported association is with autoimmune thyroiditis; however, other diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes mellitus, pernicious anemia and chronic urticaria have been described in variable percentages, depending upon the genetics of the population studied.
Among the diseases described in association with vitiligo there are the so-called autoimmune polyglandular syndromes (APS). Here we report 31 cases of APS diagnosed in 113 vitiligo patients, according to the newest classification. Autoimmune association was more present in generalized non segmental vitiligo and was more frequent in females. The most frequent association was with thyroid autoimmune disease, followed by autoimmune gastritis and alopecia areata. ANA positivity was similar to that reported previously in the general population. We stress the importance of an assessment for autoimmune diseases in vitiligo patients.

Publication Type Comparative Study. Journal Article.

Authors Martin-Brufau R. Corbalan-Berna J. Ramirez-Andreo A. Brufau-Redondo C. Liminana-Gras R. Title Personality differences between patients with lichen simplex chronicus and normal population: A study of pruritus. Source European Journal of Dermatology. 20(3):359-63, 2010 May-Jun. Itching is common to many skin disorders. The relationship between skin disease and psychological variables has been widely documented in the literature. The association between the exacerbation of skin lesions and increased levels of psychopathological conditions in response to stressful events has also been described. Lichen Simplex Chronicus (LSC) is a skin disorder characterized by itching, which seems to have a marked psychological component. However, examples of empirical evidence linking this skin disorder to personality variables, as measured by standardized personality questionnaires, are relatively few so far. The objective of this research was to investigate the involvement of certain personality variables in the development of LSC. The personality profiles of 60 patients with LSC were compared to a normative sample of the normal Spanish population, who were free of any kind of skin disease. The personality variables for the LSC group were obtained by administering the Millon Index of Personality Styles (MIPS). Participants with LSC presented personality characteristics that differed from the control group. The most significant variables were as follows: greater tendency to pain-avoidance, greater dependency on other peoples' desires, and more conforming and dutiful compared to the control group. Results are discussed in the light of other dermatological pathologies that might share some characteristics with LSC subjects. Lichen simplex chronicus patients may present differential personality characteristics that could be related to triggering and exacerbating skin lesions. Therefore, it is relevant to evaluate the personality profiles of these people to increase treatment efficiency.

Publication Type Comparative Study. Journal Article.

Authors Beqqal K. Debie J. Constantin S. Chau E. Burnouf M. Stephanazzi J. Dupin N. Avril MF. Title Evaluation of local anesthesia and pain control in dermatological surgery: a prospective study of 120 patients. Source European Journal of Dermatology. 20(3):349-53, 2010 May-Jun. Local anaesthesia with lidocaine is widely used in dermatology. The aim of this study was to evaluate pain at different times of dermatological surgery when using local anaesthetic agents. 120 consecutive patients were included during a 3 month period in a dermatological day surgery unit. Pain was estimated by a visual analogue scale, before, during and at the end of the operation. At the end, patients were asked about their satisfaction with local anaesthesia or their preference for general anaesthesia. Fifty five patients had lesions on the face and neck. Other localisations were chest (20 cases), limbs (24 cases), perineum (18 cases) and not recorded in 3 cases. Mean diameter of the lesions was 25.3 mm. Pain occurred during anaesthetic injection in 88.5% of the patients and the score was 5 or more in 42 patients. No pain was recorded during and at the end of the operation in 112 and 118 patients respectively. Fifteen patients would have preferred general to local anaesthesia because of intense pain. Local anaesthesia was judged appropriate by 86% of the patients. However, for lesions of the perineum, general anaesthesia would have been preferred by 38.8% of the patients.

Publication Type Comparative Study. Journal Article.

Authors Doss N. Kamoun MR. Dubertret L. Cambazard F. Remitz A. Lahfa M. de Prost Y. Title Efficacy of tacrolimus 0.03% ointment as second-line treatment for children with moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis: evidence from a randomized, double-blind non-inferiority trial vs. fluticasone 0.005% ointment. Source Pediatric Allergy & Immunology. 21(2 Pt 1):321-9, 2010 Mar. Tacrolimus 0.03% ointment is licensed for second-line treatment of children with atopic dermatitis (AD). Although data are available from clinical trials, no study has enrolled only second-line patients. This double-blind, non-inferiority study compared tacrolimus 0.03% and fluticasone 0.005% ointments in children with moderate-to-severe AD, who had responded insufficiently to conventional therapies.
In conclusion, efficacy of tacrolimus 0.03% ointment as second-line treatment was not inferior to that of fluticasone 0.005% ointment, with similar benefits on global disease improvement and quality of sleep.

Publication Type  Journal Article.  Randomized Controlled Trial

Authors  Basaria S.  Coviello AD.  Travison TG.

Title  Adverse events associated with testosterone administration.

Comments  Comment in: N Engl J Med. 2010 Jul 8;363(2):189-91;


BACKGROUND: Testosterone supplementation has been shown to increase muscle mass and strength in healthy older men. The safety and efficacy of testosterone treatment in older men who have limitations in mobility have not been studied.

CONCLUSIONS: In this population of older men with limitations in mobility and a high prevalence of chronic disease, the application of a testosterone gel was associated with an increased risk of cardiovascular adverse events. The small size of the trial and the unique population prevent broader inferences from being made about the safety of testosterone therapy

Publication Type  Journal Article.  Multicenter Study.  Randomized Controlled Trial

Authors  Pazoki-Toroudi H.  Nassiri-Kashani M

Title  Combination of azelaic acid 5% and erythromycin 2% in the treatment of acne vulgaris.

Source  Journal of Dermatological Treatment.  21(3):212-6, 2010 May.

INTRODUCTION: Acne vulgaris is a common problem, particularly among adolescents, which is usually resistant to monotherapy. We evaluated the efficacy and safety of a combination of azelaic acid (AA) 5% and erythromycin 2% gel (AzE) compared with AA 20% or erythromycin 2% gels in facial acne vulgaris.

CONCLUSIONS: The combination of AA 5% and erythromycin 2% produced more potent therapeutic effects in comparison with erythromycin 2% or AA 20% alone, and with fewer side effects.

Publication Type  Comparative Study.  Journal Article.  Multicenter Study.  Randomized Controlled Trial

Authors  Vergnanini AL.  Aoki V.  Takaoka R.  Madi J.

Title  Comparative effects of pimecrolimus cream vehicle and three commercially available moisturizers on skin hydration and transepidermal water loss.


BACKGROUND: Hydration and integrity of the horny layer is essential to normal skin function. Objective: Comparison of the hydrating properties of three moisturizers with pimecrolimus cream vehicle.

CONCLUSIONS: Pimecrolimus cream vehicle has skin hydration properties comparable with highly effective commercially available products. No test preparation had a significant effect on TEWL.

Publication Type  Comparative Study.  Journal Article.  Randomized Controlled Trial

Authors  Shah SK.  Alexis AF.

Title  Acne in skin of color: practical approaches to treatment. [Review] [37 refs]


Acne vulgaris, one of the most commonly encountered conditions in dermatology, affects individuals in all racial and ethnic groups, yet clinical presentation varies among different skin types. Acne, particularly when it is severe, may significantly impact an individual's quality of life and psychological well-being. Potential sequela, such as postinflammatory hyperpigmentation and keloid scarring, occur more frequently in individuals with skin of color and may be long lasting or permanent. Acknowledging the potentially long-term physical and emotional scars caused by acne vulgaris, attention has focused on management strategies that limit the disease to an early stage. Early and efficacious treatment of acne in skin of color patients may minimize pigmentary abnormalities and keloid scarring. By recognizing racial and ethnic differences in clinical presentation and potential sequela, treatment regimens may be tailored to ensure favorable outcomes for patients of all skin types. [References: 37]

Publication Type  Comparative Study.  Journal Article.  Review.

Authors  Tanioka M.  Yamamoto Y.  Kato M.  Miyachi Y.

Title  Camouflage for patients with vitiligo vulgaris improved their quality of life.

BACKGROUND: Cosmetic camouflage is important for patients with vitiligo vulgaris. However, few studies have investigated its benefit for vitiligo patients.

CONCLUSIONS: These data supported the idea that camouflage for patients with vitiligo not only covers the white patches but also improves their quality of life.

Publication Type: Controlled Clinical Trial. Journal Article. Multicenter Study

Authors: Orringer JS. Sachs DL. Bailey E. Kang S. Hamilton T. Voorhees JJ.

Title: Photodynamic therapy for acne vulgaris: a randomized, controlled, split-face clinical trial of topical aminolevulinic acid and pulsed dye laser therapy.


BACKGROUND: There remains the need for more effective therapeutic options to treat acne vulgaris. Interest in light-based acne treatments has increased, but few randomized, controlled clinical trials assessing the value of photodynamic therapy (PDT) for acne have been reported.

CONCLUSIONS: PDT with the treatment regimen employed here may be beneficial for a subgroup of patients with inflammatory acne.

Publication Type: Journal Article. Randomized Controlled Trial

Authors: Woolery-Lloyd H. Baumann L. Ikeno H.

Title: Sodium L-ascorbyl-2-phosphate 5% lotion for the treatment of acne vulgaris: a randomized, double-blind, controlled trial.


CONCLUSIONS: This study demonstrates that 5% sodium L-ascorbyl-2-phosphate is efficacious as monotherapy for the treatment of acne. APS 5% lotion offers a novel addition to our current acne armamentarium.

Publication Type: Journal Article. Randomized Controlled Trial

Authors: Bissonnette R. Maari C. Provost N. Bolduc C. Nigen S. Rougier A. Seite S.

Title: A double-blind study of tolerance and efficacy of a new urea-containing moisturizer in patients with atopic dermatitis.


CONCLUSIONS: Both the new 5% urea moisturizer and the 10% urea lotion improved atopic dermatitis and were very well tolerated. However, the cosmetic acceptability questionnaire showed that subjects preferred using the new 5% urea moisturizer over the 10% urea lotion.

Publication Type: Comparative Study. Journal Article. Multicenter Study. Randomized Controlled Trial

Authors: Raspaldo H. De Boulle K. Levy PM.

Title: Longevity of effects of hyaluronic acid plus lidocaine facial filler.


BACKGROUND: A new hyaluronic acid filler containing pre-incorporated 0.3% lidocaine reduces pain and enhances patient comfort. In vitro studies confirm functional equivalence with non-lidocaine-containing products, but only limited data are available on the long-term effects of lidocaine on filler performance in the clinical setting. AIMS: To investigate whether inclusion of lidocaine impacts the longevity of hyaluronic acid fillers.

CONCLUSIONS: The addition of 0.3% lidocaine does not affect product longevity and the small volume required for ‘touch-up’ also suggests that longevity is maintained.

Publication Type: Journal Article. Multicenter Study. Randomized Controlled Trial

Authors: Manuskiatti W. Triwongwaranat D. Varothai S. Eimpunth S. Wanitphakdeedecha R.

Title: Efficacy and safety of a carbon-dioxide ablative fractional resurfacing device for treatment of atrophic acne scars in Asians.


CONCLUSIONS: Carbon-dioxide ablative fractional resurfacing appears to be effective and well tolerated for the treatment of atrophic acne scars in Asians.

Publication Type: Clinical Trial. Journal Article

Authors: Eun HC. Kwon OS. Yeon JH.
Efficacy, safety, and tolerability of dutasteride 0.5 mg once daily in male patients with male pattern hair loss: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase III study.

BACKGROUND: Dutasteride (Avodart) is a dual inhibitor of both type I and type II 5 alpha reductases, and thus inhibits conversion of testosterone to dihydrotestosterone, a key mediator of male pattern hair loss.

OBJECTIVES: The aim of this randomized double-blind phase III study was to compare the efficacy, safety, and tolerability of dutasteride (0.5 mg) and placebo for 6 months of treatment in male patients with male pattern hair loss.

CONCLUSIONS: This study clearly showed that 0.5 mg of dutasteride improved hair growth and was relatively well tolerated for the treatment of male pattern hair loss.

Factors influencing pain intensity during topical photodynamic therapy of complete cosmetic units for actinic keratoses.

CONCLUSION: These results show that pain intensity is dependent on the location of the treated field. Pain intensity is higher in male patients. After 8 hours pain decreases significantly.

Efficacy and safety of adalimumab in patients with plaque psoriasis who have shown an unsatisfactory response to etanercept.

CONCLUSIONS: Adalimumab should be considered as an alternative in patients with psoriasis who have not shown an adequate response or who lost their response to etanercept after a dose decrease.

Efficacy, safety, and tolerability of microsphere adapalene vs. conventional adapalene for acne vulgaris.

COMMENT: Therapy with microsphere adapalene provided a better tolerability with minimal irritation compared to conventional adapalene, without compromising efficacy and could be a better therapeutic option for acne.

Agreement between histological diagnosis of skin lesions by histopathologists and a dermatohistopathologist.

DISCUSSION: Lack of agreement between histopathologists regarding the diagnosis of SCC and actinic keratosis has been previously recognized in the literature and this is again reflected in our study. The result also illustrates the difficulty involved for doctors in accurately clinically diagnosing lesions for which a consensus is hard to reach histologically.

Title Efficacy, safety, and tolerability of dutasteride 0.5 mg once daily in male patients with male pattern hair loss: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase III study.


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CONCLUSIONS: This study clearly showed that 0.5 mg of dutasteride improved hair growth and was relatively well tolerated for the treatment of male pattern hair loss.
Authors Marji JS. Marcus R. Moennich J. Mackay-Wiggan J.

Title Use of biologic agents in pediatric psoriasis. [Review] [76 refs]

Psoriasis affects approximately 2 percent of the population. Approximately 30-45 percent of those affected first experience symptoms during childhood or adolescence. Although biologics have proven to be a relatively safe and effective treatment option for adults with psoriasis, limited information is available regarding the use of biologic agents in pediatric patients with psoriasis. The Authors attempt to assess and summarize the available data on the use of biologic agents in patients under the age of 18, regardless of the indication, as well as to examine the limited available data on the use of biologics for psoriasis in the pediatric population. In doing so, the Authors aim to provide guidance on the safety and efficacy of biologic therapies in pediatric patients with psoriasis. The Authors' findings suggest that biologic agents should be considered for use solely in children with psoriasis that is refractory to conventional therapies, including children currently with severe, widespread, refractory pustular, plaque or psoriatic arthritis. Of all the currently available biologics, etanercept appears to have resulted in fewer and less severe side effects compared to infliximab in the juvenile rheumatoid arthritis population. In addition, while biologics are generally safe and effective in the pediatric population, serious adverse events (including infection), have been reported in the literature and should be taken into account before beginning treatment with any biologic agent. The physician and parents of the patient must carefully consider the risk-benefit ratio when deciding whether to use these medications. Additional randomized, controlled trials are needed to adequately assess the safety and efficacy of biologic medications for childhood psoriasis. [References: 76]

Publication Type Comparative Study. Journal Article. Review.

Authors Fleming C. Ganslandt C. Leese GP.


The two-compound ointment (Taclonex/Daivobet/Dovobet ointment) combining calcipotriene 50 microg/g and betamethasone 0.5 mg/g (as dipropionate) is very effective in the treatment of psoriasis vulgaris. There is a possibility that hypothalamic-pituitary-axis (HPA) suppression may occur if the potent corticosteroid component is absorbed to a sufficient extent. The effect of the two-compound ointment on HPA axis function was assessed in two studies. Study 1 was a four-week, double-blind study which compared the effects of the two-compound ointment with betamethasone 0.5 mg/g (as dipropionate; Dipsosone) ointment in 24 patients with extensive psoriasis (involving 15-30% of the body surface area). No patients receiving the two-compound ointment had HPA axis suppression. Study 2 assessed HPA axis function after four and 52 weeks in a subset of patients (n = 19) participating in a long-term safety study. Patients were treated with the two-compound ointment for the first four weeks followed by 48 weeks of treatment as needed with either 1) two-compound ointment; 2) two-compound ointment alternating with calcipotriene four-weekly or 3) calcipotriene. No patients using the two-compound ointment for all 52 weeks or alternating four-weekly with calcipotriene had HPA axis suppression.

Publication Type Comparative Study. Journal Article. Multicenter Study. Randomized Controlled Trial.

Authors Iraji F. Faghihi G. Siadat AH. Enshaieh S. Shahmoradi Z. Joia A. Soleimani F.
Efficacy of 15% azelaic acid in psoriasis vulgaris: a randomized, controlled clinical trial.

BACKGROUND: The results of our study showed that 15% azelaic acid gel was effective in reduction of purities, scaling and hyperkeratosis of psoriasis plaques. This treatment was also effective in reduction of skin involvement with psoriasis. It is recommended that a longer study be performed that can better evaluate the efficacy of this treatment against plaque-type psoriasis.

Publication Type: Journal Article. Randomized Controlled Trial.

Authors: Ghatinejad H., Gholami K.

Title: Sertaconazole 2% cream vs. miconazole 2% cream for cutaneous mycoses: a double-blind clinical trial.

The efficacy of 2% creams of miconazole nitrate and sertaconazole were compared in a double-blind clinical trial carried out on 100 patients with an established diagnosis of cutaneous dermatophytosis. Assessments were performed on days 0, 15, 29 and 43 in our dermatology clinic. Cure was defined according to clinical assessment confirmed by microscopical examination and culture. The groups were similar in age, gender, weight, and clinical presentation. The reported side-effects, most commonly pruritus, occurred in 22 (40.0%) and 15 (33.3%) patients in the sertaconazole and miconazole groups, respectively (P = 0.28), but were not serious enough to stop the treatment. The only significant difference between the groups was in per-protocol cure rate by day 15, when patients in the sertaconazole group had a higher cure rate than the miconazole group (P = 0.01). In conclusion, sertaconazole was superior to miconazole in producing an early response in our patients. Given the higher price of sertaconazole and the ability of the considerably less expensive miconazole to produce equally good response after a month, the usefulness of sertaconazole as an alternative to miconazole in Iran requires further study.

Publication Type: Journal Article. Randomized Controlled Trial.

Authors: Fabbrocini G., Fardella N., Monfrecola A., Proietti I., Innocenzi D.

Title: Acne scarring treatment using skin needling.

BACKGROUND: Acne is a common condition seen in up to 80% of people between 11 and 30 years of age and in up to 5% of older adults. In some patients, it can result in permanent scars that are surprisingly difficult to treat. A relatively new treatment, termed skin needling (needle dermabrasion), seems to be appropriate for...
the treatment of rolling scars in acne. AIM: To confirm the usefulness of skin needling in acne scarring treatment.

CONCLUSION: The present study confirms that skin needling has an immediate effect in improving acne rolling scars and has advantages over other procedures.


Authors Tan E. Levell NJ.
**Title** Regular clinical dermatoscope use with training improves melanoma diagnosis by dermatologists.
**Source** Clinical & Experimental Dermatology. 34(8):e876-8, 2009 Dec.

Dermatoscopy is not accepted by all dermatologists as a useful diagnostic tool. We set out to test if training followed by regular clinical use of dermatoscopes improved diagnostic accuracy in melanoma diagnosis. Six dermatologists who had not previously used dermatoscopes were studied before and after a 10-month period of dermatoscope use with training and use of the Modified Pattern Analysis Diagnostic Algorithm. Diagnostic accuracy was assessed using test cards containing clinical and dermatoscopic photographs. The number of melanomas undiagnosed after training fell from 18 to 5 and the number potentially left unexcised fell from 18 to 3. The numbers of benign lesions potentially excised remained unchanged. The study shows that the use of dermatoscopes with training greatly increased the accuracy of diagnosis of melanoma by dermatologists. This practical study supports the use of dermatoscopy in pigmented-lesion diagnosis and demonstrates how dermatoscopy training could be incorporated into UK specialist training programmes.

Publication Type Journal Article. Validation Studies.

Authors Klahan S. Asawanonda P.
**Title** Topical tacrolimus may enhance repigmentation with targeted narrowband ultraviolet B to treat vitiligo: a randomized, controlled study.

CONCLUSION: Adapalene 0.1% lotion used once a day for 12 weeks is effective and well tolerated in the treatment of acne vulgaris.

Publication Type Journal Article. Multicenter Study. Randomized Controlled Trial.

Authors Del Rosso JQ. Bruce S. Jarratt M. Menter A. Staedtler G.
**Title** Efficacy of topical azelaic acid (AzA) gel 15% plus oral doxycycline 40 mg versus metronidazole gel 1% plus oral doxycycline 40 mg in mild-to-moderate papulopustular rosacea.

Rosacea is a leading reason why people seek the care of a dermatologist, accounting for nearly 7 million office visits annually. Pharmacologic treatments include both topical and oral medications, which are increasingly being used in combination, especially at the outset of therapy. This exploratory study assesses the safety, effectiveness and speed of onset of two common topical agents for the treatment of rosacea—azelaic acid gel (AzA) 15% and metronidazole gel 1%—used in conjunction with anti-inflammatory dose doxycycline (40 mg once daily). Men and women (n = 207) with mild-to-moderate papulopustular rosacea were enrolled and randomized to receive either AzA gel 15% twice daily plus doxycycline 40 mg once daily (AzA group) or metronidazole gel 1% once daily plus doxycycline 40 mg once daily (Metro group) for 12 weeks. Both regimens were safe, efficacious and well tolerated. Efficacy parameters revealed a possible trend toward greater and earlier benefit with the AzA-based regimen than with the metronidazole-based regimen. These findings warrant further investigation in a sufficiently powered study.

Publication Type Comparative Study. Journal Article. Randomized Controlled Trial.

Authors Brueckner CS. Becker MO. Kroencke T.
**Title** Effect of sildenafil on digital ulcers in systemic sclerosis: analysis from a single centre pilot study.

OBJECTIVE: In this pilot study, the effect of sildenafil on digital ulcer (DU) healing and related clinical symptoms was analysed.
CONCLUSIONS: This study indicates an effect of sildenafil on DU healing in patients with SSc and an improvement of RP and associated symptoms that should be validated in controlled studies.

Publication Type Clinical Trial. Journal Article

Authors Coronel-Perez IM. Rodriguez-Rey EM. Camacho-Martinez FM.

Title Latanoprost in the treatment of eyelash alopecia in alopecia areata universalis.
OBJECTIVES: The aim of this study was to test the efficacy of latanoprost in eyelash alopecia areata (AA).
CONCLUSIONS: Latanoprost may be an effective drug in the treatment of eyelash AA because it induces acceptable responses (total and moderate) in 45% of the patients. A formal, blinded prospective unilateral controlled study will permit further understanding about this promising therapeutic agent for eyelash AA.
Publication Type Controlled Clinical Trial. Journal Article.

Authors Edstrom DW. Linder J. Wennersten G. Brisma R. Ros AM.

Title Phototherapy with ultraviolet radiation: a study of hormone parameters and psychological effects.
CONCLUSION: Whole-body phototherapy of patients with dermatological conditions results in improved well-being and significantly higher levels of 25-hydroxyvitamin D in serum.
Publication Type Controlled Clinical Trial. Journal Article.

Authors Sakuyama S. Hirabayashi C. Hasegawa J. Yoshida S.

Title Analysis of human face skin surface molecules in situ by Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy.
Source Skin Research & Technology. 16(2):151-60, 2010 May.
CONCLUSION: We demonstrate that the periodically changed components of the human face skin contained magnesium lactate conjugate as a major component.
Publication Type Clinical Trial. Journal Article.

Authors Kaatz M. Sturm A. Elsner P. Konig K. Buckle R. Koehler MJ.

Title Depth-resolved measurement of the dermal matrix composition by multiphoton laser tomography.
Source Skin Research & Technology. 16(2):131-6, 2010 May.
CONCLUSION: With the present work we provide evidence for the accuracy of the measurement of dermal matrix composition by MLT and give detailed advice for the measurement procedure. Furthermore, we propose the use of depth-dependent emission intensity curves for monitoring of anti-aging treatment.
Publication Type Clinical Trial. Journal Article.

Authors Bartels P. Yozwiak M. Einspahr J. Saboda K. Liu Y. Brooks C. Bartels H. Alberts DS.

Title Chemopreventive efficacy of topical difluoromethylornithine and/or triamcinolone in the treatment of actinic keratoses analyzed by karyometry.
OBJECTIVE: To determine whether low-dose topical applications of difluoromethylornithine (DFMO) with or without Triamcinolone (Fougena, Melville, New York, U.S.A.) to moderately sun-damaged skin with actinic skin keratoses are efficacious
CONCLUSION: The low-dose, topical drug interventions were all effective in reducing skin biopsy nuclear abnormality by a statistically significant 15-20%, whereas there was no evidence of a double placebo effect by karyometric assessment. These effects were greater than the case-to-case sampling error.

Authors Alora-Palli MB. Perkins AC. Van Cott A. Kimball AB.

Title Efficacy and tolerability of a cosmetically acceptable coal tar solution in the treatment of moderate plaque psoriasis: a controlled comparison with calcipotriene (calcipotriol) cream.
BACKGROUND: Topical coal tar is a well known and effective treatment for psoriasis, but the messiness, staining, odor, and inconvenience associated with its use make patient satisfaction and compliance a challenge.
OBJECTIVE: To determine the efficacy, patient tolerability, and cosmetic acceptability of a new topical liquor carbonis distillate (LCD) 15% solution compared with calcipotriene (calcipotriol) cream in patients with moderate, chronic plaque psoriasis.
CONCLUSION: The newly formulated LCD solution, applied twice daily at home for 12 weeks, was more effective and as well tolerated and cosmetically acceptable as the calcipotriene cream over 12 weeks of...
treatment and 6 weeks of follow-up. The LCD solution is a patient-accepted and effective corticosteroid-sparing treatment alternative for psoriasis patients.

Authors Reschly MJ. Shenefelt PD.

Title Controversies in skin surgery: electrodessication and curettage versus excision for low-risk, small, well-differentiated squamous cell carcinomas.
BACKGROUND: Electrodesiccation and curettage (ED&C) of low-risk, cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) generally consumes less time and resources than excision. Review of the literature reveals few recent studies examining cure rates for ED&C in the treatment of low risk cutaneous SCC. OBJECTIVE: To evaluate via two retrospective studies the efficacy of ED&C in the treatment of low risk cutaneous SCC. CONCLUSION: These findings support the efficacy of ED&C as a treatment modality for low-risk cutaneous SCC.

Authors Rizza L. Frasca G. Bonina C. Puglia C.

Title Comparative in vivo study of the efficacy and tolerance of exfoliating agents using reflectance spectrophotometric methods.
The study pointed out that glycolic acid (10% w/w) induced a faster skin exfoliation, a more intense erythema, and a higher photosensitizing effect in comparison with the mandelic acid and grape juice acid mixtures. Further evidence showed that the mandelic acid and grape juice acid mixtures were able to induce a slower and safer peeling action in comparison with glycolic acid. Finally, our results suggest that the methodologies and protocols used in this study may help in choosing the most appropriate topical agents for skin exfoliating treatments.

Authors Uliasz A. Lebwohl M.

Title Evaluation of sensory irritation caused by topical medications using a novel technique.
BACKGROUND: Topical medications are often the first line therapy utilized by dermatologists for a variety of conditions. However, a common side effect of topical medications is application site irritation. The aim of this study was to evaluate and compare the sensory irritation caused by hydrocortisone butyrate lipocream 0.1% using a non-invasive and inexpensive technique.
CONCLUSION: Our study, using a novel technique to measure sensory irritation, establishes hydrocortisone butyrate lipocream 0.1% to be minimally irritating. We hope to use this simple and easy-to-use assay to measure and compare the severity of the sensory irritation of various commercially available topical preparations. In doing so, we hope to ultimately create a sensory irritation ranking scale, which would enable physicians to choose less irritating products, thereby enhancing adherence to treatment regimens and patient satisfaction.

Authors Omura Y. Yamabe M. Anazawa S.

Title Peristomal skin disorders in patients with intestinal and urinary ostomies: influence of adhesive forces of various hydrocolloid wafer skin barriers.
PURPOSE: This study examines the adhesiveness of hydrocolloid wafers and its relationship to physical damage of the underlying skin.
CONCLUSIONS: These results suggest that the peristomal skin is irritated by repeated peeling, resulting in physical damage to the horny layer of the skin. The presence of papules and erosion was not associated with the adhesive force of skin barriers. This finding suggests that these changes are associated with an inflammatory process, possibly caused by chemical substances within the skin barrier.

Authors Gorpelioglu C. Ozol D. Sarifakioglu E.

Title Influence of isotretinoin on nasal mucociliary clearance and lung function in patients with acne vulgaris.
Retinoids are widely used to treat acne in patients with underlying systemic diseases. We evaluated the effect of 13-cis-retinoic acid (isotretinoin) on nasal mucociliary clearance and pulmonary function tests (PFTs) in patients with severe acne vulgaris. Each side effect was scored using a 4-point scale. Mucociliary clearance
was evaluated by the saccharin test (ST). ST and PFTs were performed on all patients before and during the third month of treatment. A total of 40 acne patients (88% female, mean age 25 +/- 7 years) were included. The most common side effects were dryness, chapped lips, and xerosis. Mild epistaxis occurred in 13 patients; only two patients reported bleeding more than 10cc. There was no difference before and during the third month of treatment in forced vital capacity (FVC), forced expiratory volume in 1 s (FEV1), FEV1/FVC ratio, forced expiratory flow rate between 25% and 75% of FVC (FEF(25-75)), and their predicted percentage ratios. Mean nasal mucociliary clearance time was 12.6 +/- 4.1 min before and 15.9 +/- 5.7 after treatment (P 0.001). We found that nasal clearance was significantly prolonged with treatment, and there was significant correlation between drug dose and mucociliary clearance time. Isotretinoin caused signs and symptoms of dry nose and disturbed mucociliary clearance without affecting PFTs. Nasal complications generally are not serious, especially when isotretinoin is taken in low doses.

Authors Zuberbier T. Oanta A. Bogacka E
Title Comparison of the efficacy and safety of bilastine 20 mg vs levocetirizine 5 mg for the treatment of chronic idiopathic urticaria: a multi-centre, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled study.
BACKGROUND: Bilastine is a novel nonsedative H(1)-receptor antagonist, which may be used for the symptomatic treatment of chronic idiopathic urticaria (CU). The aim of this study was to compare the clinical efficacy and safety of bilastine 20 mg vs levocetirizine 5 mg and placebo in CU patients with moderate-to-severe symptoms. CONCLUSIONS: Bilastine 20 mg is a novel effective and safe treatment option for the management of CU.

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