Sarecycline: Rapid Improvement of Truncal Acne in Hispanic Male

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INTRODUCTION

• Acne vulgaris is a common disease of both males and females, usually manifesting initially during adolescence.

• 60-70% of patients present with acne on the trunk. 1

• Since severity of truncal acne does not correlate with severity of facial acne, the psychosocial burden and physical pain and bleeding of truncal acne cannot be underestimated. 2

• Antibiotics in the tetracycline family have been prescribed as acne treatments for many years.

• Sarecycline, a narrow-spectrum 3rd generation tetracycline-class antibiotic, was FDA approved for moderate-to-severe acne vulgaris in patients 9 years of age and older in October, 2018.

• Sarecycline exhibits potent anti-inflammatory activity, activity against Cutibacterium acnes and clinically relevant Gram-positive bacteria, but reduced activity against Gram-negative bacteria commonly found in the gut, may contribute to its favorable side effect profile. 3

• Significant improvement in truncal acne, using IGA assessments, was reported with sarecycline in Phase 3 clinical trials. 4,5

CASE REPORT

• We present a 18-year-old Hispanic male with severe acne vulgaris on the trunk treated with sarecycline monotherapy for 3 months, and assessed IGA scores and lesion counts of the trunk, with objective photographs, at weeks 3, 6, 9 and 12.

• At baseline, the patient presented with severe acne vulgaris on the trunk, with 77 inflammatory lesions on the trunk.

• This case report confirms clinical observation of rapid improvement of truncal acne in Phase 3 clinical trials. 1

RESULTS

• At weeks 3, 6, 9, and 12, inflammatory lesions counts on the trunk decreased to 13 (83% reduction), 13 (83% reduction), 8 (90% reduction), and 7 (91% reduction), respectively.

• IGA score for the trunk decreased from IGA of 4 at baseline to 1 (almost clear) at week 12.

• No side effects of special interest for tetracycline-family antibiotics, including nausea, diarrhea, esophagitis, pseudotumor cerebri, blurry or double vision, dizziness, vertigo, or blue-gray pigmentation, were observed.

CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS

• Oral sarecycline may offer a practical and convenient treatment for truncal acne, especially in areas where topical agents can be difficult to apply.

REFERENCES


