How Label Warnings and Precautions May Impact the Proportion of Patients with Psoriasis Initiating New Treatments

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Background
• Initiating or switching to a new treatment for psoriasis (PsO) depends on many factors such as disease severity, quality of life, comorbid conditions, and treatment history. Warnings and precautions included in medication labels present additional points of consideration.
• These warnings for approved treatments for moderate to severe plaque psoriasis often include malignancy, risks of infection inclusive of immunosuppression, and others.

Objective
• This study was conducted to assess the proportion of US patients with psoriasis seeking systemic treatment who may be impacted by common label warnings and precautions.

Study Design and Methods

Design:
• Retrospective observational study among adults diagnosed with psoriasis (via 1 inpatient or 2 outpatient diagnosis codes) from the Optum® Clinformatics DataMart database.

Study Population:
• Adult patients with psoriasis who initiated new systemic treatment between September 2017 and September 2022 were included. The treatment initiation date was the index date. Baseline characteristics were defined during the 365 days prior to an index date (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Study Schema

Figure 2: Proportion of Systemic Treatment Initiators with Label Warnings and Precautions from 2017 to 2022 in the Optum® Clinformatics DataMart Database

Figure 3: Baseline Comorbidities Overall and by Label Warnings and Precautions Categories

Statistical Analysis:
• Categories related to label warnings and precautions were evaluated at the initiation of a new treatment (index date). Criteria included:
  – Using immunosuppressive medication within 90 days prior to the index date (1 dose or more of antineoplastic drug, 30 days or more of oral glucocorticoids, 90 days of transplant anti-rejection medications).1
  – Having infections including ‘active infections’ and ‘serious infections’ (defined as hospitalized for infection including 1 inpatient claim within 90 days prior to index date [and within 30 days of index for a sensitivity analysis]) or having frequent infections, at least 6 in the past year
  – Having current malignancy including lymphoma
• Proportions were estimated for each category and overall for any of the categories.

Results
• There were 125,096 new systemic treatment initiations during the study period.
• The mean age was 58.2 years and 54.5% were female (Table 1). Patients with malignancies were older.
• Overall, more patients with psoriasis had commercial insurance, however, those with criteria related to label warnings and precautions were more likely to have Medicare (Table 1). The most common comorbidities were hypertension, dyslipidemia, and psoriatic arthritis (Figure 3).

Table 1: Baseline Characteristics of Patients With Psoriasis Initiating New Systemic Treatments by Warnings and Precautions Categories

Conclusions
• This study highlights that approximately a quarter of systemic treatment initiators with psoriasis meet the criteria related to label warnings and precautions in real-world clinical practice. These factors should be considered when selecting new treatments.

References

Disclosures
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For further information on the study, scan the QR code or follow the URL: https://content.amgen.com/publisher-screen.html?content_id=333

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