A Checklist to Aid in Identifying Patients with Atopic Dermatitis who are Candidates for Systemic Therapy

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BACKGROUND

- Systemic therapy is indicated for patients with moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis (AD) who do not achieve adequate disease control with topical therapy or have frequent or severe flare-ups.
- The decision to initiate systemic therapy in patients with AD is complex, with no consensus on criteria for initiation.
- To aid clinicians in this decision making, the “When To Start Systemic Therapy Checklist”, comprising three sections, was developed. Systemic therapy is indicated when ≥1 criterion in each section is fulfilled.

OBJECTIVE

To examine the validity of the “When To Start Systemic Therapy Checklist” by evaluating agreement between the decision to initiate systemic therapy using the Checklist, compared to the reference, patients in the CorEvitas AD Registry who were prescribed systemic therapy.

METHODS

- Data source: Cross-sectional analysis using deidentified data from the CorEvitas AD Registry, a non-interventional, prospective, longitudinal registry for patients with AD under the care of a dermatologist or advanced practice practitioner.
- Patients enrolled in the CorEvitas AD registry between July 1, 2020 – July 31, 2022 (N=3,331)

Study population and analysis

- Patients (≥18 years) diagnosed with AD included in this study (N=1,468)
- Patients with moderate-to-severe AD who did not initiate systemic therapy at enrollment (N=1,248)
- Patients who initiated systemic therapy at enrollment or within 12 months prior to enrollment (N=1,264)

Analysis

- The CorEvitas AD registry outcome measures were compared against the checklist criteria when a criterion did not match a response, either a proxy measure was satisfied or that part of the questionnaire was excluded.
- Systemic therapy was defined as a systemic AD molecule prescribed at enrollment or within 12 months prior to enrollment.

RESULTS

- The statistical methods in this descriptive study did not correct for multiple comparisons.
- The decision to initiate systemic therapy is multifactorial. To ensure timely and appropriate access to care, future analyses should examine why some patients with high disease burden and severity remain untreated with systemic therapy.

CONCLUSIONS

- More than 90% patients taking systemic therapy at enrollment in the CorEvitas registry met at least one criterion from the “Clinical Severity” section of the “When To Start Systemic Therapy Checklist”, indicating strong alignment between the Checklist sections A and B and the registry.
- Most patients in the non-systemic therapy group met at least one criterion from the Severity and Burden sections of the checklist, potentially indicating therapeutic inertia.

LIMITATIONS

- The CorEvitas Registry includes only a sample of adults with AD; therefore, may not be representative of all patients with AD in the US or Canada.
- The statistical methods in this descriptive study did not correct for baseline differences between the groups.

RESULTS

Demographic characteristics of AD patients who met ≥1 criterion of Checklist vs. those who did not meet criteria, stratified by CorEvitas cohort group.

Overall agreement for the “When To Start Systemic Therapy Checklist” using the CorEvitas AD registry as the reference standard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>CorEvitas systemic therapy group (N=1,468)</th>
<th>CorEvitas non-systemic therapy group (N=300)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age (years)</td>
<td>50.3 (14.7)</td>
<td>65.3 (11.5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex (%): Male</td>
<td>57.3 (12.2)</td>
<td>63.8 (12.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographic region (%): USA</td>
<td>51.2 (15.4)</td>
<td>61.5 (13.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifetime extent of AD</td>
<td>21.0 (20.4)</td>
<td>21.0 (20.4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time since diagnosis (years)</td>
<td>11.5 (10.3)</td>
<td>11.5 (10.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous flares</td>
<td>39.6 (39.6)</td>
<td>39.6 (39.6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous topicals</td>
<td>84.1 (84.1)</td>
<td>84.1 (84.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current use of topicals</td>
<td>6.8 (6.8)</td>
<td>6.8 (6.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current EASI</td>
<td>12.8 (12.8)</td>
<td>12.8 (12.8)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current vIGA</td>
<td>1.7 (1.7)</td>
<td>1.7 (1.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current OCS</td>
<td>0.1 (0.1)</td>
<td>0.1 (0.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current systemic molecules</td>
<td>0.4 (0.4)</td>
<td>0.4 (0.4)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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