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AB0770

SYMPTOMS AND IMPACTS IN PSORIATIC ARTHRITIS: FINDINGS FROM QUALITATIVE PATIENT INTERVIEWS

¹Alexis Ogdie¹, Kaleb Michaud^{2,3}, Evo Alemas⁴, Miroslawa Nowak⁴, Rachel Bruce⁵, Kendra Debusk⁴, Sarah Cantor⁶, Carlijn Hintzen⁶, Philip J. Mease⁷.
¹University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, United States of America; ²FORWARD, The National Databank for Rheumatic Diseases, Wichita, United States of America; ³University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, United States of America; ⁴Bristol-Myers Squibb, Princeton, United States of America; ⁵IQVIA, New York, United States of America; ⁶IQVIA, Amsterdam, Netherlands; ⁷Swedish Medical Center/Providence St. Joseph Health and University of Washington, Seattle, United States of America

Background: Psoriatic arthritis (PsA) is a chronic inflammatory disease resulting in significant symptom burden.¹ Over time and without adequate treatment, PsA can lead to disability and reduced patient quality of life.² Fatigue is among the most common symptoms,¹ but is complex and difficult to measure. The most burdensome symptoms that impact PsA patients need to be better understood in order to select patient reported outcomes (PRO) tools that adequately capture these concepts.

Objectives: 1.) Identify the signs and symptoms of PsA experienced by patients, with a focus on fatigue, and how the disease and its treatment (s) impact patients' lives. 2.) Assess the content validity of select PRO instruments and items to measure fatigue.

Methods: Qualitative interviews were conducted among patients with PsA recruited through the FORWARD databank. The most frequently experienced symptoms and impacts of PsA and the degree to which they disturbed patients' lives, were tabulated. Disturbance was evaluated on a scale from 0 (not at all) to 10 (greatly disturbs). Patients reporting fatigue were probed to describe the experience in their own words, and descriptors were recorded. Interviews were conducted and assessed on a rolling basis and recruitment continued until concept saturation was achieved.

Results: Nineteen PsA patients were interviewed for this study. A core set of PsA symptoms were identified by nearly all patients and with moderate to high average disturbance ratings (Figure 1): joint pain, skin symptoms, stiffness, swollen/inflamed joints, and fatigue. The most salient impacts (Figure 2) were sleep disturbance, physical disability, effects on daily activities, and feelings of frustration. Most common descriptors of fatigue included "fatigue," "tiredness," "lack of energy," "mental fatigue," and "exhaustion."

Conclusion: Salient symptoms were consistent with those previously reported, along with a broader range of symptoms and impacts, which included fatigue. In addition to physical disability, others such as sleep disturbance, frustration, and effect of daily activities were common high impact themes that emerged.

Abstract AB0770 Figure 1. Salient Symptoms Reported by Patients in Qualitative Interviews (n=19)

Abstract AB0770 Figure 2. Salient Impacts Reported by Patients in Qualitative Interviews (n=19)

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AB0771

IMPROVEMENT IN MORNING STIFFNESS IN SUBJECTS WITH PSORIATIC ARTHRITIS IS ASSOCIATED WITH IMPROVEMENTS IN PAIN, PHYSICAL FUNCTION AND PATIENT GLOBAL RESPONSE TO TREATMENT

¹Ana-Maria Orbai¹, Jessica A. Walsh², Peter Nash³, Lichen Teng⁴, Benoit Guereite⁴, Rieke Alten⁵. ¹Johns Hopkins Arthritis Center and Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, United States of America; ²University of Utah School of Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Rheumatology, Salt Lake City, United States of America; ³University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia; ⁴Celgene Corporation, Summit, United States of America; ⁵Schlosspark-Klinik University of Medicine, Berlin, Germany

Background: Stiffness is an important component of inflammatory arthritis and plays a role in psoriatic arthritis (PsA) flare. Patients with inflammatory arthritis report difficulty with activities, "slowing down" due to stiffness and reduced quality of life. Stiffness is hard to quantify because it cannot be measured directly.

Objectives: We examined morning stiffness in PsA patients treated with apremilast (APR) for 16 weeks in the ACTIVE study and explored the relationship between improvements in morning stiffness and pain, physical function and Patient's Global Assessment of Disease Activity (PtGA).

Methods: Subjects who met CASPAR criteria for PsA, were biologic-naïve and had prior exposure to ≤ 1 conventional disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drug (DMARD) were randomized (1:1) to APR 30 mg twice daily or placebo (PBO) for 24 weeks. Subjects initially randomized to PBO