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Side effect: Characterizing laterality and site-specific patterns in lentigo maligna and lentigo maigna melanoma on the human body

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Melanoma is known to have a left-sided laterality, yet few studies have examined the anatomic variations in the subtypes lentigo maligna (LM) and lentigo maligna melanoma (LMM). Here we aimed to examine laterality and anatomic distribution of LM and LMM at a single university center. A total of 392 biopsy cases (241 LM and 151 LMM) from 2008 to 2018 were included in this study. Chi-square tests were used to evaluate LM/LMM based on gender, body site, laterality, and metastasis. Analysis of variance models were used to compare Breslow depth. There was no overall statistically significant laterality (left 54.5% vs right 45.5%, $P = .0890$), however, there was a significant increase in left-sided LM/LMM on the head/neck (left 59.1% vs right 40.9%, $P = .0178$). LM/LMM showed the following frequencies per body site: head/neck 49.7%, upper limbs 25.3%, trunk 16.8%, and lower limbs 8.3%. Men demonstrated a higher incidence of LM/LMM on the head/neck and trunk (head/neck men 58.2% vs women 35.0%, trunk 18.9% men vs 13.3% women, $P < .0001$), while women showed a higher incidence on extremities (upper limbs men 20.5% vs women 33.6%, lower limbs men 2.4% vs women 18.2%, $P < .0001$). There was a significant increase in metastasis on the upper limbs (LMM:LM ratio 1.11 upper limbs; $P = .0018$) and on the right side of the female body (LMM:LM ratio 1.36 right; $P = .0257$). Overall, LM/LMM does not share left-sided laterality patterns with melanoma, except when on the head/neck. Like melanoma, LM/LMM is commonly found on the head/neck and upper extremities. These findings may aid in diagnosis of LM/LMM.

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18228

A novel acetyl dipeptide demonstrates pleiotropic gene expression, optimized bioavailability, and perceived anti-aging benefits

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Peptides, composed of amino acids, are developed for topical skin benefits due to their similarity to and effect on the skin's structural components, such as collagen, elastin, and decorin. A novel acetyl dipeptide (ADP) with known anti-aging, anti-inflammatory, and compromised skin benefits, was further evaluated. RNA was isolated in vitro from full-thickness skin equivalents treated twice for 48 hours with ADP in different formulations. Whole-transcriptome analysis identified differentially expressed genes. Skin penetration studies of ADP were conducted in cadaver skin mounted on Franz diffusion cells over 48 hours. An in vivo assessment using an ADP facial cream twice daily, in women 40-65 years, included self-assessment for consumer perceived skin benefits. Transcriptome analysis revealed ADP differentially modulated 4284 genes including favorable up-regulations to: skin development, peptide cross-linking, and regulation of water loss compared with untreated ($P < .05$). ADP positively affected individual genes ($P < .05$) including HAS3, AQP5, FLG, LIPN, GLUD1, VEGF, and CDKN2A, linked to hydration, barrier function, epidermal metabolism, and senescence. Skin penetration studies show ADP delivery is increased with glycolic acid ($P < .01$, dose-dependently) and directionally increased in a niosomal carrier. In vivo self-graded dryness showed significant improvement compared with baseline ($P < .05$). Self-assessment of perceived benefits to anti-aging included improvement in elasticity/firmness (96%), fine lines (98%), overall signs of aging (100%), skin looks younger (100%). Overall, the novel acetyl dipeptide exhibited pleiotropic mechanisms of action with an optimized means for skin bioavailabilty and supporting consumer perceived benefits as a topical skin matrix and barrier building anti-aging agent.

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The landscape of podcasting in dermatology: A descriptive analysis

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Background: Podcasting has become an increasingly popular medium of digital communication in the general population as well as the medical community, including dermatology. However, the state of podcasting in dermatology has not been well characterized. We sought to describe the spectrum of dermatology podcasts available and assess their purpose, content, and objectivity.

Methods: Searches were conducted on Spotify, Stitcher, Google Play Music, and Apple Podcasts to identify dermatology-related podcasts by reviewing podcast descriptions and episode notes and by listening to select episodes as of August 13, 2019. Podcasts with fewer than 3 episodes were excluded.

Results: A total of 36 unique podcasts related to dermatology were reviewed. Podcasts fell into the following categories: clinical dermatology (58.3%), alternative medicine (19.4%), esthetics (8.33%), business (8.33%), applying into dermatology (2.78%), and patient perspectives (2.78%). 27.8% had explicit mention of sponsorship by a company, while 8.33% included links to private practices or products for purchase in the episode notes. 47.2% of podcasts were hosted by physicians and 11.1% by a nurse or other non-MD or DO clinician. Five podcasts were affiliated with peer-reviewed journals. Among podcasts focused on clinical dermatology, 66.7% were hosted by a physician with explicit mention of external industry support in 33%.

Conclusions: A wide variety of podcasts related to dermatology are available. Industry involvement is prevalent; thus listeners should be wary of possible bias. To promote the legitimacy of podcasts for education and information distribution, establishment of specific quality metrics, including transparency regarding sponsorship, may be warranted.

Commercial disclosure: None identified.

18239

Secukinumab treatment results in sustained improvement in absolute PASI and drug survival: 24-month follow-up from the British Association of Dermatologists Biologics and Immunomodulators Register

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Introduction: Secukinumab (SEC) is an anti−IL-17A monoclonal antibody for moderate to severe psoriasis. The British Association of Dermatologists Biologics and Immunomodulators Register (BADBIR), an ongoing UK and Republic of Ireland prospective longitudinal pharmacovigilance registry, is an ideal resource to assess real world drug survival and effectiveness.

Methods: Patients enrolled 01/01/2016 to 31/08/2018 treated with SEC with at least one follow-up were evaluated. Drug survival to 24 months was examined using Kaplan−Meier analysis. Absolute PASI (aPASI) scores at 12 and 24 months were analyzed using data ± 90 days of the respective time point.

Results: 1733 SEC-treated patients enrolled in BADBIR were included in this analysis. 54 (3.1%) were treated off-label, 1214 (70.1%) had at least one prior biologic. Mean age was 44.9 ± 13.2 years (n = 519) in biologic naïve, and 47.3 ± 12.6 years (n = 1214) in biologic experienced. Mean BMI was 30.6 ± 7.0 (n = 79) in biologic naïve, and 32.4 ± 6.4 (n = 33) in biologic experienced. Mean baseline PASI and disease duration was 16.2 ± 8.1 (n = 419) and 21.0 ± 13.2 years (n = 519) respectively in biologic naïve, and 13.1 ± 8.3 (n = 492) and 24.4 ± 12.6 years (n = 1205) respectively in biologic experienced. aPASI of ≤3 was achieved by 86.3% and 85.5% of biologic naïve patients at 12 and 24 months respectively and 56.0% and 53.4% of biologic experienced patients at 12 and 24 months respectively. Kaplan−Meier drug survival in biologic naïve patients was 91.7% and 82.1%; and in biologic experienced patients 80.6% and 63.3% at 12 and 24 months respectively.

Discussion: SEC demonstrates high durability and sustained effectiveness in real world practice. Limitations include no information on the number of previous biologics in the experienced group.

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