Scalp psoriasis affects approximately 6% of patients with psoriasis. It may cause pruritus and social and psychological difficulties due to its visible, itching, and potentially disfiguring nature. 

Scalp psoriasis is difficult to manage, and various treatments have been used for its treatment, including topical corticosteroids, calcipotriol, or calcipotriene ointments, corticosteroids, potassium hydroxide washes, salicylic acid shampoos, coal tar, and UVB therapy. However, most of the topical treatments are ineffective in patients whose scalp psoriasis is resistant to conventional treatments. 

Oral tazarotene has recently been evaluated for the treatment of scalp psoriasis and the results from two multicenter, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled phase 3 studies are described. These trials were designed to evaluate the efficacy and safety of oral tazarotene in the treatment of moderate to very severe scalp psoriasis. The results from these two multicenter, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled phase 3 studies involving approximately 600 patients demonstrated the efficacy and safety of oral tazarotene in patients with scalp psoriasis. 

The percentage of patients discontinuing the study as a result of adverse events was minimal. At week 12, a decline in the proportion of patients whose scalp psoriasis was improved was significantly greater with oral tazarotene than with placebo. 

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Oral Tazarotene Scals Psoriasis 

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P067

INTRODUCTION

Tazarotene—a retinoid that is highly effective for both plaque and guttate psoriasis— offers efficacy in treating scalp psoriasis due to its ability to inhibit keratinocyte hyperproliferation, regulate abnormal differentiation, and downregulate the TNF-α and IFN-γ transcription factors. 1-5 Significant improvements in the efficacy and safety of systemic treatment options


Lesional Assessment (OLA) and Physician’s Global Assessment (PGA).

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6. Food and Drug Administration.

Off-label disclosure: Oral tazarotene is not currently approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

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DISCLOSURES

Off-label disclosure: Oral tazarotene is not currently approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

Dr Tanghetti is a consultant and speaker for Allergan, Inc. Dr Poulin has participated in trials for Allergan, Inc. and L&O Pharma, and has served as a consultant for Allergan, Inc. Dr Walker is an employee of, and owns stock in, Allergan, Inc. This development of this poster was supported by Allergan, Inc., Irvine, CA.