



INFLAMMATORY SKIN DISEASES (OTHER THAN ATOPIC DERMATITIS & PSORIASIS)

A RETROSPECTIVE STUDY OF THE EFFICACY OF ORAL ALITRETINOIN IN TREATING KOREAN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC HAND ECZEMA

Joo Yeon Ko⁽¹⁾ - Dong Seok Shin⁽¹⁾ - Young Wook Ko⁽¹⁾ - Dong Uk Cheon⁽¹⁾ - Byeong Jin Park⁽¹⁾ - Jeong Eun Kim⁽¹⁾ - Young Suck Ro⁽¹⁾

Department Of Dermatology, Hanyang University College Of Medicine, Seoul, Republic Of Korea⁽¹⁾

Background: Alitretinoin is a first generation retinoid indicated for moderate to severe chronic hand eczema (CHE) resistant to topical steroid therapy. The efficacy and safety of oral alitretinoin in Asian patients with CHE has rarely been studied.

Objective: The aim of this study was to evaluate the efficacy and safety of oral alitretinoin in the treatment of CHE in Korean patients under daily real life, which admitted concomitant use of topical corticosteroids.

Materials and Methods: We performed a retrospective study of 107 Korean patients diagnosed as CHE. Participants were treated with oral alitretinoin for at least 4 weeks and were divided into 4 groups according to the treatment periods (4-8, 9-16, 17-24, >24 weeks). We compared the treatment success rate and recurrence rate among the groups. We additionally divided patients into 2 groups depending on the concurrent use of topical corticosteroids and performed a comparative analysis between the two groups.

Results: Treatment success rate was 73.83% (n=79) and recurrence rate was 41.77% (n=33). Treatment success rate appeared to be significantly higher in groups treated for more than 16 weeks than that of group treated for 4-8 weeks. In the aspect of recurrence rate, there was no statistically significant difference among the 4 groups but recurrence rate tended to decrease as treatment duration got longer. The group treated with combined therapy (topical corticosteroids and oral alitretinoin) showed higher treatment success rate than alitretinoin monotherapy group despite shorter mean treatment period.

Conclusions: We confirmed that oral alitretinoin therapy showed higher treatment success rate for Korean patients with CHE under daily real life compared with previous reports but frequent relapse of the disease was observed with treatment cessations.

