

TREATMENT OF ACNE VULGARIS WITH FINACEA – GEL

S. Racheva, P. Drumeva, R. Bachvarova
*Department of Dermato-Venereology
Medical University - Varna, Bulgaria*

SUMMARY:

Acne vulgaris in its various clinical forms presents a therapeutic problem. Different therapeutic schemes of combined local and systemic treatment exist and their aim is specific effect on infundibular hyperkeratosis or inflammation. The drugs, containing azelaic acid (Skinoren, Finacea) meet the criteria of influencing the inflammation and infundibular hyperkeratosis. FINACEA (15% Azelaic acid) is gel, designed for treatment of acne and acne-like eruptions. The aim of the present study was to follow up the curing effect of Finacea – gel in patients with acne vulgaris (mild and moderate forms), when it is applied as a separate drug. The treated patients were 25; they all presented acne vulgaris with predominant papulo-comedon, papulous lesions in the clinical picture. The control checks up were performed every two weeks. Beside the curing effect, the eventual side effects of the drug were also followed up. In most of the treated with Finacea patients fast whitening and diminishing of the papulous lesions was observed together with reducing the number of comedons, which is consistent with data in literature. In patients with acne vulgaris Finacea – gel shows comparatively fast and stable curing effect, when applied for sufficiently long time.

Key words: Finacea - gel, Azelaic acid, acne vulgaris

Acne vulgaris in its various clinical forms presents a therapeutic problem. Different therapeutic schemes of combined local and systemic treatment exist and their aim is specific effect on infundibular hyperkeratosis or inflammation.

The most wide spread clinical variants of acne vulgaris are papulo-pustulous and comedon forms.

The drugs, containing azelaic acid (SKINOREN, FINACEA) meet the criteria of influencing the inflammation and infundibular hyperkeratosis (Gollnick HP 2001, 2004, Thiboutot D. 2008, Iraj F. 2007).

FINACEA (15% AZELAIC ACID) is gel, designed for treatment of acne and acne-like eruptions. It influences Propionibacterium acnes and shows good anti-inflammatory effect, reduces the formation of comedons and has very good tolerance (Gollnick H. 1998, Webster G. 2000). The reported side effects are only slight burning after the application, itching, mild erythema and rarely – temporary

hypo pigmentation of skin. Maximal effect is achieved after a couple of months treatment and improvement is noticed as early as the fourth week after starting treatment (Thiboutot D. 2008; Katsambas A. 1989).

The aim of the present study was to follow up the curing effect of FINACEA – gel in patients with acne vulgaris (mild and moderate forms), when it is applied as a separate drug.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

FINACEA – gel, produced by SCHERING, was used.

The treated patients were 25 (16 women and 9 men); they all presented acne vulgaris with predominant papulo-comedon, papulous and pustulous lesions in the clinical picture.

The drug was applied twice a day for a different period of time. In 17 patients the treatment continued for 8 weeks; in four – 6 weeks and in the rest four – 4 weeks.

The control checks up were performed every two weeks.

Beside the curing effect, the eventual side effects of the drug were also followed up.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The treatment of patients with acne vulgaris with FINACEA –gel showed very good effect; this is shown in the table 1.

In most of the treated with FINACEA patients fast whitening and diminishing of the papulous lesions was observed together with reducing the number of comedons, which is consistent with data in literature (Werret WI 2006, Cavicchini S. 1989).

Even on the fourth week after starting treatment significant improvement was observed. In patients treated for eight weeks a very good and good effect was achieved (14 patients and 8 patients respectively).

During treatment only three patients complained of slight burning after the first applications and one – of slight itching.

CONCLUSIONS

- In patients with acne vulgaris FINACEA – gel shows comparatively fast and stable curing effect, when

applied for sufficiently long time.

- FINACEA – gel shows most significant effect in patients with papulous forms of acne vulgaris.
- Patients with acne vulgaris, treated with FINACEA

– gel, show good tolerance – weak, insignificant and rare side effects.

- FINACEA – gel may be recommended as a very good choice for local treatment of acne vulgaris.

Table 1. Curing effect of FINACEA in patients with acne vulgaris – different forms

Clinical forms of acne vulgaris	Number of treated patients	Very good effect	Good effect	Unsatisfactory effect
Papulo-comedonic	5 (20%)	4 (16%)	1 (4%)	0
Papulous	12 (48%)	8 (32%)	3 (12%)	1 (4%)
Pustulous	8 (32%)	2 (8%)	4 (16%)	2 (8%)
Total	25 (100%)	14 (56%)	8 (32%)	3 (12%)

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