

Dermatologist tutorial helps minimize acne Rx side effects

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(HealthDay)—For Korean patients with acne, fixed-dose combination adapalene 0.1 percent and benzoyl peroxide 2.5 percent gel (A-BPO) is more efficacious than benzoyl peroxide (BPO), with similar skin irritation levels that can be improved with dermatologists' tutorials for A-BPO application, according to a study published online June 20 in the *Journal of Dermatology*.

Hyuck Hoon Kwon, M.D., from the Seoul National University College of Medicine in South Korea, and colleagues compared A-BPO gel with BPO in terms of efficacy and tolerability in Korean patients with acne in a single-blind controlled, split-face trial for 12 weeks. Eighty-five patients were included; each half facial side was randomized to either A-BPO or BPO. During initial assignment, patients were further



randomized to dermatological tutorial (DT) or non-tutorial (NT) subgroups depending on the presence of dermatologists' tutorials for application methods for the A-BPO facial side.

The researchers found that A-BPO gel outperformed BPO, with better efficacy in success rates and lesion counts from one week. Compared with BPO and previous A-BPO data from Caucasians, A-BPO proved significantly less tolerable. Clinical data were confirmed by bioengineering measures. Compared with the NT subgroup, the DT subgroup achieved much better tolerability, with comparable therapeutic efficacies.

"In conclusion, A-BPO demonstrated higher efficacies in acne compared with BPO in Korean <u>patients</u>, while <u>skin irritation</u> levels were notable concurrently," the authors write. "Dermatologists' education for application methods would significantly decrease these side effects, maintaining superior efficacy levels."

More information: Abstract

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