

# Tapinarof cream safe, effective for plaque psoriasis in intertriginous areas

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Vtama (tapinarof) cream is efficacious, safe, and well tolerated for the

treatment of plaque psoriasis in sensitive intertriginous areas, according to a study presented at the annual Fall Clinical Dermatology Conference, held from Oct. 19 to 22 in Las Vegas.

In a phase 4 clinical trial, Howard Sofen, M.D., of Dermatology Research Associates in Los Angeles, and colleagues evaluated tapinarof cream, 1 percent, for the once-daily treatment of intertriginous plaque psoriasis among 34 adults.

The researchers found that 82.8 percent of participants achieved an intertriginous Physician Global Assessment (iPGA) score of 0 (clear) or 1 (almost clear) and  $\geq 2$ -grade improvement from baseline at week 12, the primary end point of the study. Two-thirds of participants (65.5 percent) achieved complete disease clearance (iPGA score of 0) at week 12, with a median time to complete disease clearance of eight weeks. Rapid onset of efficacy was seen with iPGA as early as week 2 and with a median time to iPGA success of six weeks, the secondary end point of the study. By week 4, half of patients achieved itch relief (a clinically meaningful  $\geq 4$ -point improvement in Peak Pruritus-Numeric Rating Scale score), which increased to 75 percent at week 12. No new safety signals were detected, and the most common adverse reactions included folliculitis, nasopharyngitis, [contact dermatitis](#), headache, pruritus, and influenza.

"The results of this phase 4 study are meaningful because patients that entered this study had suffered with extensive disease, many over 10 years duration. While the rates of [disease](#) clearance are impressive, the fast onset of Vtama cream and associated itch relief are particularly noteworthy," Sofen said in a statement. "These data, combined with those of previous studies, further indicate that Vtama [cream](#) is a safe and effective treatment for [adult patients](#) with intertriginous plaque psoriasis."

The study was funded by Dermavant, the manufacturer of tapinarof.

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