Effects of episil® oral liquid in cancer patients with oral mucositis: an observational study.

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Introduction

Oral Mucositis (OM), a common and painful side effect of cancer therapies, decreases patients’ quality of life. Effective OM treatment alternatives are needed.

Objectives

The study aimed at data collection on the non-interventional medical use of episil® oral liquid in cancer patients with oral mucositis.

Methods

44 physicians documented OM grade, pain and quality of life in 146 patients (58.9% female, 41.1% male). Additionally, 161 patients completed a questionnaire included in the statistical analysis. Most common underlying cancer diseases were breast cancer (35.6%) and head and neck cancer (24%). At study start, patients discontinued their respective pre-treatments and were initiated on episil® oral liquid. Evaluations were made before, immediately after first application and after 5 treatment days.

Conclusion

Evaluation of the pain reduction and quality of life by both physicians and patients showed a rapid and considerable improvement during the episil® treatment versus pre-treatment.

Results

Among patients, 87% suffered from OM grade 2 or 3 at study start, decreasing to 32% after 5 treatment days with episil® oral liquid. Pain and quality of life scores improved marginally during pre-treatment whereas rapid and pronounced pain reduction was observed for 74% to 89% of patients (measured at rest, when swallowing, speaking or eating); over 85% of patients reported quality of life improvement. 56% of patients reported strong quality of life improvement and 59% strong pain reduction. Median time to onset and duration of pain reduction was 5 minutes and 4 hours, respectively. 8 incidents occurred in 7 out of 146 patients.

References

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