Assessing Patient and Physician Experiences With Severe, Chronic Hand Eczema

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Disclosures
Dana DiBenedetti is an employee of RTI Health Solutions. The work that is the subject of this presentation was funded by GSK under a contract with RTI Health Solutions. Eileen Baranowski and Susan Zelt are employed by Stiefel, a GSK company, and hold equity ownership in GSK. Online panels from which patients and physicians were invited were maintained by Harris Interactive.

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Hand eczema (HE) is an immune-mediated inflammation of the skin associated with both genetic and environmental factors. A subset of patients experience severe chronic HE (sCHE) that is refractory to topical corticosteroids. Long-term prognosis in these patients is poor, and there is a substantial unmet need for effective treatment options.

Objectives

● Patient Survey Objectives
  – **Primary**: characterize patient-reported symptoms of CHE
  – **Secondary**: characterize CHE impact on home, work, and/or social life as well as healthcare utilization and cost of treatment for CHE

● Physician Survey Objectives
  – **Primary**: understand physicians’ current approaches to treatment of sCHE
  – **Secondary**: characterize physician satisfaction with current treatment options and determine billing codes used for sCHE

CHE, chronic hand eczema; sCHE, severe chronic hand eczema.
Methods

- **Study Design:** a cross-sectional, web-based survey in the United States of patients self-reporting a physician diagnosis of CHE and dermatologists treating pts with sCHE
  - Patient invitations were sent to 400 respondents who were part of an online eczema panel maintained by Harris Interactive and had previously participated in a web-based survey to assess preferences for CHE treatments
  - A random sample of physicians from HI’s dermatologist panel were invited to participate

- **Inclusion Criteria**
  - **Patients**
    - ≥ 18 years of age
    - Self-reported physician diagnosis of chronic hand eczema
    - Symptoms severe enough to limit normal daily activities
    - Topical agents do not completely clear up HE
  - **Physicians**
    - Practice in the United States
    - See ≥ 3 adult pts with CHE per year

CHE, chronic hand eczema; HE, hand eczema; HI, Harris Interactive; pt, patient; sCHE, severe chronic hand eczema.
Methods

- **Survey Details**
  - **Patient survey respondents answered questions regarding:**
    - Selected demographic characteristics
    - CHE symptoms and disease impact
    - Disease, diagnosis, and treatment experience
    - QOL and health status
    - Impact on work
    - Insurance and healthcare resource use
  - **Physician survey queried dermatologists on:**
    - Demographics and practice characteristics
    - Diagnosis, treatment, and referral patterns
    - Satisfaction with currently available treatment options for sCHE
    - ICD-9 billing codes used for pts with sCHE

CHE, chronic hand eczema; ICD, international classification of diseases; QOL, quality of life, sCHE, severe chronic hand eczema.
Results: Patient Characteristics

- Overall, participants were predominantly female, white, non-Hispanic, and married or living with a partner.

- Most participants had completed at least some college (26%), a 4-year college degree (27%), or a graduate/professional degree (15%)\(^a\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Patients (N = 163)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gender, n (%)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>43 (26)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>120 (74)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean ± SD, y</td>
<td>47.1 ± 14.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median (range), y</td>
<td>49 (19-83)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marital status(^a), n (%)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married or living with partner</td>
<td>102 (63)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widowed</td>
<td>4 (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced or separated</td>
<td>16 (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>41 (25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ethnicity(^b), n (%)</strong></td>
<td>(n = 160)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caucasian/white</td>
<td>129 (81)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Asian American</td>
<td>16 (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>6 (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>3 (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian or Alaska Native</td>
<td>2 (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>4 (3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^a\) Patient characteristics were gathered from RTI-HS Study No. 0303327 (Benefit-Risk Preferences for Hand Eczema Treatments).

\(^b\) Patients were not explicitly asked about ethnicity in this survey, but ethnicity was available from characteristics of participating panel members.
Dryness and/or flaking (81%) and itchiness (75%) were the most frequently reported CHE symptoms. The majority of pts (77%) reported current symptoms on both hands, and approximately half reported CHE symptoms between the fingers (51%) or on the backs of the hands (48%) or fingers (48%).

CHE, chronic hand eczema; pt, patient.
Results: Disease History

- Most pts reported noticing symptoms ≥ 2 years ago

Reasons for Not Seeking Immediate Treatment for HE Symptoms

- Thought symptoms would get better on their own: 60%
- Treated eczema symptoms with OTCs: 34%
- Symptoms did not affect daily activities or ability to perform job: 23%
- Did not think a doctor could eliminate hand eczema symptoms: 19%
- Could not afford cost of seeing a doctor: 18%
- Other: 13%
- Did not have time to see a doctor: 9%
- Am embarrassed or unwilling to ask doctor to prescribe medications for HE: 8%
- Do not like to take medicines for HE: 8%
- Symptoms got better on their own: 8%

HE, hand eczema; OTC, over-the-counter medication; pt, patient.
Results: Treatment History

- 56% of pts reported that their CHE diagnosis was made by a dermatologist and 36% reported that their diagnosis was made by a PCP
- The most frequently reported prescription medication used by pts to treat CHE was topical steroids

Patient-Reported Prescription Medication Used to Treat CHE

- 84% Topical steroids, n = 98
- 25% Systemic corticosteroids or retinoids, n = 35
- 30% Antihistamines, n = 29
- 6% Methotrexate, n = 7
- 4% Other, n= 5
- 3% I don’t remember, n = 3

CHE, chronic hand eczema; PCP, primary care provider; pt, patient.
Results: Quality of Life

- Mean score on the EQ-5D visual analog scale was 74.2 (range, 11-100)
  - 0 is the worst imaginable health state and 100 is the best
- Mean utility score was 0.80
  - This is the same as for a large, representative sample of US adults

2. Health status was assessed by the 3L version of the EQ-5D Health Status Questionnaire. (The EuroQol Group, 1990)
3. EQ-5D; EuroQol 5 Dimension.
Results: Impact on Work

- Impairment of work productivity and activity due to CHE was assessed by the WPAI-SHP\(^1\), modified for use in CHE
  - Although overall work absenteeism was generally low, work productivity and normal activity were negatively impacted in approximately one-third of the sample population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic Affected by CHE, mean % ± SD</th>
<th>Patients (n = 95)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work time missed due to CHE</td>
<td>4.9 ± 13.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impairment while working due to CHE</td>
<td>28.8 ± 26.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall work impairment due to CHE</td>
<td>30.3 ± 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity impairment due to CHE</td>
<td>36.6 ± 27.7(^a)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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\(^a\) N = 163, which includes both working and nonworking pts.

CHE, chronic hand eczema; pt; patient; WPAI-SHP, Work Productivity and Activity Impairment Questionnaire: Specific Health Problem.
Results: Healthcare Utilization

- In the past 3 months, pts reported a mean of 1.1 (range, 0-8) office visits and 1.2 (range, 0-9) unique prescription products for CHE.
- Most respondents had private insurance (70%), 17% had Medicare, and 10% did not have insurance.
  - Of those with health insurance, 95% of pts reported full or partial coverage for the cost of prescription drugs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Costs Associated With CHE Treatment in the Past 3 Months</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Out-of-pocket copays related to prescription medication</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean, USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median (range), USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Out-of-pocket copays related to physician’s office visits</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean, USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median (range), USD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Results: Physician and Practice Characteristics

- Overall, dermatologists were predominantly male, white, and non-Hispanic

- Median age of dermatologists was 53 y (range, 33-84 y), with a median of 19 y (range, 7-42 y) in clinical practice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Practice Characteristics</th>
<th>Physicians (N = 125)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of dermatologists' patients who are adults (aged ≥ 18 y) in an average month, n (%)</td>
<td>25-50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>51-75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&gt; 75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of hand eczema pts at each practice with sCHE Mean (SD)</td>
<td>33 (21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Median (range)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

pt, patient; sCHE, severe chronic hand eczema.
Results: Diagnosis Patterns

Methodologies Used by Physicians to Diagnose sCHe

- Clinical judgment, n = 123 (98%)
- Published research, n = 83 (66%)
- Established clinical guidelines, n = 69 (55%)
- Patients themselves, n = 69 (55%)
- Information from area experts, n = 58 (46%)
- Patients’ insurance guidelines/procedures, n = 45 (36%)
- Other, n = 1 (1%)

sCHe, severe chronic hand eczema.
Results: Treatment Patterns

Treatments Prescribed for sCHE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment</th>
<th>Physicians Prescribing Specified Treatment, %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topical steroids</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topical immunomodulators</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systemic treatments</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phototherapy</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other immunosuppressants</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyclosporine</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

sCHE, severe chronic hand eczema.
Results: Satisfaction With Treatment Options

- **How well the currently available products treat symptoms of sCHE**
  - Very dissatisfied: 4%
  - Somewhat dissatisfied: 36%
  - Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied: 18%
  - Somewhat satisfied: 40%
  - Very satisfied: 2%

- **How well the currently available products treat sCHE-related pain**
  - Very dissatisfied: 6%
  - Somewhat dissatisfied: 38%
  - Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied: 34%
  - Somewhat satisfied: 22%
  - Very satisfied: 1%

- **How well the currently available products treat sCHE-related itching**
  - Very dissatisfied: 6%
  - Somewhat dissatisfied: 34%
  - Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied: 19%
  - Somewhat satisfied: 38%
  - Very satisfied: 2%

sCHE, severe chronic hand eczema.
Results: Most Commonly Used ICD-9 Codes

- Physicians were asked to identify ICD-9 codes that they used ≥ 50% of the time when treating pts with sCHE
Conclusions

- Patients with sCHE have several ongoing symptoms

- Despite high treatment utilization, pts experience negative impacts on QOL and work productivity

- Physicians most often treat sCHE with topical corticosteroids, topical immunomodulators, and systemic treatments

- Only 55% of pts and 42% of physicians are satisfied or very satisfied with currently available treatment options for sCHE symptoms

pt, patient; QOL, quality of life; sCHE, severe chronic hand eczema.