Baricitinib: Adis Evaluation

Clinical Considerations

- Convenient once daily oral formulation
- Can be used with or without topical corticosteroids (TCS) [or topical calcineurin inhibitors for sensitive areas]
- Provides early and sustained improvements in multiple measures of disease severity, pruritus, skin pain, sleep disturbance and health-related quality of life
- Safety profile consistent with that established in patients with moderate to severe rheumatoid arthritis

Plain Language Summary

Background and rationale

- A better understanding of the multiple factors that cause atopic dermatitis (AD; a chronic, relapsing, inflammatory skin disease often known as eczema) has led to the development of novel therapies that target various inflammatory pathways involved in the disease process
- Baricitinib (Olumiant®), a Janus kinase (JAK)1 and JAK2 inhibitor that targets inflammatory pathways in AD, is a once-daily oral treatment approved in the EU for moderate to severe AD in adults who are candidates for systemic therapy

Clinical findings

- In such patients, baricitinib, alone or in combination with topical corticosteroids, improved disease severity, pruritus, skin pain, sleep disturbance and health-related quality of life compared with placebo over 16 weeks
- Benefit onset was rapid and generally sustained over the longer term (treatment duration ≤ 68 weeks)
- The safety profile of baricitinib in patients with moderate to severe AD is consistent with that seen in adults with moderate to severe rheumatoid arthritis treated with the drug

Conclusion

Baricitinib provides a convenient oral alternative to subcutaneous biologics for the treatment of moderate to severe AD

This plain language summary represents the opinions of the author. For a full list of declarations, including funding and author disclosure statements, please see the full text online. © Springer Nature Switzerland AG 2022.