Cost-utility analysis of maintenance treatment with tacrolimus ointment in adults with moderate and severe atopic dermatitis

Colette Chambers 1 and Anthony Bentley 2
1 Health Economics and Outcomes Research, Astellas Pharma ELP, Leeds House, Sowerby, Middlesex, TW12 3AZ
2 Alphata Health, 4 Market Street, Royston, October 2010

BACKGROUND
Tacrolimus ointment is a chronically relapsing inflammatory skin disease. The main
symptom is itch, which may be intense, causing excessive scratching resulting in damaged skin with erosions, bleeding, and a detrimental impact on social activities and personal relationships. Treatment is usually administered in a reaction to moderate or severe AD. Patients who discontinued treatment with tacrolimus ointment continue to incur other treatment costs for the remainder of the 12-month period modelled. One-way and probabilistic sensitivity analyses were conducted: * Tacrolimus ointment 0.1% in adults and 0.03% in children

RESULTS
Atopic dermatitis (AD) is a chronically relapsing inflammatory skin disease. The main
symptom is itch, which may be intense, causing excessive scratching resulting in damaged skin with erosions, bleeding, and a detrimental impact on social activities and personal relationships. Treatment is usually administered in a reaction to moderate or severe AD. Patients who discontinued treatment with tacrolimus ointment continue to incur other treatment costs for the remainder of the 12-month period modelled. One-way and probabilistic sensitivity analyses were conducted: * Tacrolimus ointment 0.1% in adults and 0.03% in children

Sensitivity analyses
One-way and probabilistic sensitivity analyses were conducted: * Tacrolimus ointment 0.1% in adults and 0.03% in children

CONCLUSION
This analysis demonstrates that tacrolimus ointment applied twice-weekly as a maintenance treatment regimen is dominant over a conventional reactive treatment regimen with tacrolimus ointment in adults and children with moderate and severe AD, providing incremental health benefits at a lower cost.

REFERENCES

Funding Source
This research was funded by Astellas Pharma ELP.