

Guselkumab: Adis Evaluation

Clinical Considerations

- A first-in-class interleukin-23 antagonist (IL-23) approved in the EU and the USA for the treatment of moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis in paediatric patients ≥ 6 years of age
- Significantly reduces disease severity and improves quality of life
- Benefits are sustained up to 52 weeks
- Generally well tolerated; most common adverse events include infections and headache

Plain Language Summary

Background and rationale

- Plaque psoriasis, a chronic, inflammatory skin condition with about a third of cases arising in childhood, is managed with topical therapies, light therapy and/or systemic treatments (non-biologic or biologic).
- Guselkumab (TREMIFYA®) is an IL-23 blocker, meaning it binds selectively to the p19 subunit of IL-23 and blocks the IL-23-mediated inflammatory signalling involved in psoriasis.
- It is the first IL-23 blocker approved to treat moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis in children and adolescents ≥ 6 years of age eligible to receive systemic and/or light therapy.

Clinical findings

- As shown in a 52-week clinical trial in children and adolescents ≥ 6 years of age with moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis, treatment with guselkumab resulted in completely or mostly cleared skin in significantly more patients than with placebo. Patient quality of life was also improved.
- Guselkumab is generally well tolerated and common side effects included infections and headaches.

Conclusion

Guselkumab expands the systemic treatment options available for children and adolescents ≥ 6 years of age with moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis.

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