TEASE-3 study: Positive interim data reported for Stargardt drug

Lynda Charters

March 17th 2024

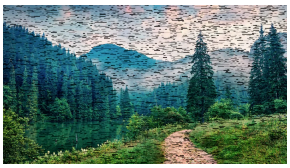
Gildeuretinol halts Stargardt disease progression for up to 6 years.

COPHy 2024: Should all patients with idiopathic intracranial hypertension have a lumbar puncture?

Sheryl Stevenson

March 16th 2024

Andrew G. Lee, MD, outlines his stance on whether all patients with idiopathic intracranial hypertension should have a lumbar puncture, emphasizing clinical judgment and treatment strategies.



Patients with visual snow syndrome should be evaluated and treated

Lynda Charters

March 16th 2024

The International Headache Society has provided criteria for visual snow syndrome (VSS).

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Send elderly patients with acute visual loss to ER for stroke evaluation and treatment? A resounding YES

Lynda Charters

March 16th 2024

Considering small case series of acute intraocular inflammation post-faricimab injections

Lynda Charters

March 15th 2024

Observing potential cases highlights the importance of monitoring and reporting, contributing to a comprehensive understanding of therapeutic effects.

COPHy 2024: Is artificial intelligence ready to replace physicians?

Hattie Hayes

March 15th 2024

Retina specialists Giuseppe Querques, MD, PhD, and Paolo Lanzetta, MD, debate at the Congress on Controversies in Ophthalmology

Intraocular inflammation: A major risk factor resulting from use of anti-complement agents for GA

Lynda Charters

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March 15th 2024

The good news for patients is that GA is transitioning from an untreatable disease to a potentially treatable one with development of new therapies to reduce the growth rate, and use of anti-complement therapies have caused the growth rate of GA lesions to decrease.

Protecting vision during solar eclipses: Insights for ophthalmologists

David Hutton

March 15th 2024

Ophthalmologists can educate their patients about the importance of using certified solar viewing glasses or other safe viewing methods.

Humanity + technology: Talking to patients about the science and benefits of clinical trials

Pamela Ann Weber, MD

March 15th 2024

When we discuss trial participation with patients, we stress that the goal of these studies is to obtain better visual outcomes and ease the treatment burden.

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COPHy 2024: How good are we really without artificial intelligence tools?

Hattie Hayes

March 15th 2024

At this year's Congress on Controversies in Ophthalmology, keynote speaker Ursula Schmidt-Erfurth, MD, addressed the clinical use of artificial intelligence

Ocugen completes dosing of subjects with geographic atrophy in Phase 1/2 clinical trial of OCU410

David Hutton

March 14th 2024

OCU410 is a modifier gene therapy candidate being developed for geographic atrophy, an advanced stage of dry age related macular degeneration.

Clario and Cole Eye Institute announce strategic partnership to provide ophthalmology offerings for clinical trials

David Hutton

March 14th 2024

The collaboration combines Clario's transformative technology with Cleveland Clinic's market-leading imaging expertise and AI-enabled analysis to help bring new therapies to patients, faster.

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OcuTerra announces phase 2 DR:EAM trial fails to meet primary and secondary key endpoints

Martin David Harp

March 14th 2024

The trial evaluated nesvategrast (OTT166 5%) eye drops in patients with diabetic retinopathy.

Seeing a new reality

Sydney M Crago

March 14th 2024

Advances in virtual reality and AI are helping those with AMD and low vision.

Smokers more likely to experience vision loss

Lynda Charters

March 13th 2024

Research indicates smoking increases risk of AMD, cataracts and glaucoma

Philip Ferrone, MD, to join Apellis Pharmaceuticals as Chief Medical Retina Advisor

Sydney M Crago

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March 12th 2024

Ferrone's role will be effective as of March 18, 2024.

Study: Researchers demonstrate prime editing as option to correct many disease-causing genetic mutation

David Hutton

March 11th 2024

In the study, published in Nature Biotechnology, researchers used their new system to correct disease-causing mutations in the eyes of two mouse models of genetic blindness, partially restoring their vision.

Regeneron announces publication of one-year results from PULSAR and PHOTON trials

Martin David Harp

March 10th 2024

Results show Eylea HD extended dosing regimens were non-inferior to aflibercept 2 mg injection (Eylea) for both the treatment of wet age-related macular degeneration (wAMD) and diabetic macular edema (DME).

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Kiora publishes results from study demonstrating safety, tolerability and efficacy of KIO-101 for treatment of inflammation of the eye

David Hutton

March 9th 2024

The study showed that a 12-day treatment of KIO-101 topically at multiple doses was well tolerated in healthy volunteers and patients with inflammation of the eye.

< 1 ... 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 ... 73 >

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Contact Info

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FEATURED

Children and Fall Allergies

You have options for FDA-approved treatments for your child's allergies. There are over-the-counter (non-prescription) options available, or you can talk to a health care professional about prescription medicines and allergy shots.

(/consumers/consumer-updates/allergy-relief-your-child)

(/food/alerts-advisories-

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)

FDA's Response to Ensure Continued Effectiveness of Federal-State Milk Safety System

safety-information/updates-highly-pathogenic-avian-influenza-hpai)

Help Stop the Spread of Misinformation

You can help. Get the facts from the FDA. Stop the spread of false rumors, and share the facts with your loved ones.

(/news-events/rumor-control)

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Vaccination is the Best Protection Against Measles

FDA-approved vaccines to prevent measles are safe and effective. Talk to your health care provider and learn more about how childhood vaccines can protect your children.

(/consumers/consumer-updates/vaccination-best-protection-against-measles)

PRODUCTS WE REGULATE

Food (/food)

Drugs (/drugs)

Medical Devices (/medical-devices)

Radiation-Emitting Products (/radiation-emitting-products)

Vaccines, Blood, and Biologics (/vaccines-blood-biologics)

Animal and Veterinary (/animal-veterinary)

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Cosmetics (/cosmetics)

Tobacco Products (/tobacco-products)

Report a Problem with an FDA Regulated Product (https://www.safetyreporting.hhs.gov/smarthub#/)

RECENT PRESS ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEP 20

FDA Approves Nasal Spray Influenza Vaccine for Self- or Caregiver-Administration (/news-events/press-announcements/fda-approves-nasal-spray-influenza-vaccine-self-or-caregiver-administration)

SEP 20

FDA Approves First Treatment for Niemann-Pick Disease, Type C (/news-events/press-announcements/fda-approves-first-treatment-niemann-pick-disease-type-c)

More Press Announcements (/news-events/fda-newsroom/press-announcements)

NEWSROOM
(/NEWS-EVENTS/FDA-NEWSROOM)

MEETINGS
(/NEWS-EVENTS/FDA-MEETINGS-CONFERENCES-AND-WORKSHOPS)

TESTIMONY

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(/NEWS-EVENTS/CONGRESSIONAL-TESTIMONY)

SPEECHES
(/NEWS-EVENTS/SPEECHES-FDA-OFFICIALS)

RECALLS, MARKET WITHDRAWALS, & SAFETY ALERTS

Alerting you to the latest recalls of potentially unsafe FDA-regulated products gathered from press releases and other public notices. Not all recalls have press releases or are posted on this website.

SEP 20

Grace Imports, LLC Issues Allergy Alert of Undeclared Wheat in Kara Boondh, Kerala Mixture and Spicy Murukku (/safety/recalls-market-withdrawals-safety-alerts/grace-imports-llc-issues-allergy-alert-undeclared-wheat-kara-boondh-kerala-mixture-and-spicy-murukku)

FOOD & BEVERAGES

SEP 20

HP Hood LLC Recalls Select Units of 96 oz Refrigerated Lactaid Milk Due to Possible Almond Allergen (/safety/recalls-market-withdrawals-safety-alerts/hp-hood-llc-recalls-select-units-96-oz-refrigerated-lactaid-milk-due-possible-almond-allergen)

FOOD & BEVERAGES

SEP 19

Avole Inc. Issues Allergy Alert on Undeclared Fish in Bacalaitos Criollos Codfish Mix (/safety/recalls-market-withdrawals-safety-alerts/avole-inc-issues-allergy-alert-undeclared-fish-bacalaitos-criollos-codfish-mix)

FOOD & BEVERAGES

More Recalls Market Withdrawals & Safety Alerts (/safety/recalls-market-withdrawals-safety-alerts)

Subscribe to the Enforcement Report Mailing List (https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/ires/index.cfm?action=subscription.login)

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FDA VOICES: PERSPECTIVES FROM FDA EXPERTS

Join FDA for the First National Hispanic/Latino Family Cancer Awareness Week, Sept. 20-26

FDA will hold the first National Hispanic/Latino Family Cancer Awareness Week to increase cancer awareness within the Hispanic/Latino population.

(/news-events/fda-voices/join-fda-first-national-hispaniclatino-family-cancer-awareness-week-sept-20-26)

Advancing Clinical Trial Participation for the LGBTQIA+ Community

FDA attended an NC roundtable with members of the REACH Consortium, researchers, patients, community members, and LGBTQIA+ health professionals and advocates.

(/news-events/fda-voices/advancing-clinical-trial-participation-lgbtqia-community)

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Men's Health is Falling Behind – Some Thoughts About Why

The trajectory of men's health in the U.S. is headed in a negative direction. Let's examine the potential underlying reasons for this decline.

(/news-events/fda-voices/mens-health-falling-behind-some-thoughts-about-why)

View More... (https://www.fda.gov/news-events/fda-newsroom/fda-voices)

RECENTLY PUBLISHED GUIDANCES

SEP 25

Small Entity Compliance Guide: Standards for the Growing, Harvesting, Packing, and Holding of Produce for Human Consumption (/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/small-entity-compliance-guide-standards-growing-harvesting-packing-and-holding-produce-human)

FOOD & BEVERAGES

SEP 23

The Accreditation Scheme for Conformity Assessment (ASCA) Program (/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/accreditation-scheme-conformity-assessment-asca-program)

BIOLOGICS, MEDICAL DEVICES

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SEP 23

Basic Safety and Essential Performance of Medical Electrical Equipment, Medical Electrical Systems, and Laboratory Medical Equipment - Standards Specific Information for the Accreditation Scheme for Conformity Assessment (ASCA) Program (/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/basic-safety-and-essential-performance-medical-electrical-equipment-medical-electrical-systems-and-0)

BIOLOGICS, MEDICAL DEVICES

FDA Guidance Search (/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents)

RESOURCES AND PROGRAMS

Jobs at FDA (/about-fda/jobs-and-training-fda)

Inspections and Compliance (/inspections-compliance-enforcement-and-criminal-investigations)

MedWatch: Safety Alerts (/safety/medwatch-fda-safety-information-and-adverse-event-reporting-program)

Science & Research (/science-research)

FDA Organization (/about-fda/fda-organization)

Import Program (/industry/import-program-food-and-drug-administration-fda)

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Warning Letters (/inspections-compliance-enforcement-and-criminal-investigations/compliance-actions-and-activities/warning-letters)

Combination Products (/combination-products)

Rumor Control (/news-events/rumor-control)

Criminal Investigations (/inspections-compliance-enforcement-and-criminal-investigations/criminal-investigations)

Disposal of Unused Medicines (/drugs/safe-disposal-medicines/disposal-unused-medicines-what-you-should-know)

Emergency Preparedness (/emergency-preparedness-and-response)

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For Patients

Learn about treatments, drug/device approvals, public meetings and more.

Learn About FDA Patient Engagement

Engage with FDA! Our mission is to improve public health. We can't do it without you: the patients, caregivers, and advocates. We want to hear directly from you and learn about your experiences, preferences and needs as they relate to FDA-regulated medical products.

Learn More (/patients/learn-about-fda-patient-engagement)

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CONNECT WITH FDA

Patients Ask FDA (/patients/learn-about-fda-patient-engagement/patients-ask-fda)

Ask a question or request a meeting with FDA.

Report a Drug or Medical Device Issue to FDA (/safety/medwatch-fda-safety-information-and-adverse-event-reporting-program)

Report a safety concern or negative event with an FDA-regulated medical product using FDA's information and event reporting program, MedWatch.

Submit Comments to FDA on Pending Regulatory Policies (/patients/guide-submitting-comments-fda)

Share your knowledge and expertise with FDA to make your voice heard regarding pending regulatory policies.

Contact the Patient Affairs Staff (/about-fda/office-clinical-policy-and-programs/patient-affairs-staff)

Connect with FDA's Patient Affairs Staff directly. We help patients become more informed and involved in FDA regulatory decisions related to medical products.

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APPROVAL AND RECALLS

About the FDA Drug and Device Approval Process (/patients/learn-about-drug-and-device-approvals)

Learn about the drug and medical device approval process. This process follows well-established paths to make sure that medical products are safe and effective when they reach the public.

FDA Drug Approvals (/drugs/development-approval-process-drugs/drug-approvals-and-databases)

Get information about FDA-approved brand name and generic prescription and over-the-counter human drugs and biological therapeutic products.

FDA Device Approvals (/medical-devices/device-approvals-and-clearances/recently-approved-devices)

Find information about what the device is, how it works, when it can be used, and when it should not be used.

FDA Recalls, Market Withdrawls, & Safety Alerts (/safety/recalls-market-withdrawals-safety-alerts)

Review information gathered from press releases and other public notices about recalls, withdrawls, and safety alerts of FDA-regulated products.

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EXPANDED ACCESS AND CLINICAL TRIALS

Expanded Access: Information for Patients (/news-events/expanded-access/expanded-access-information-patients)

Learn about expanded access, including information about the expanded access process, what FDA considers, and what costs may be involved.

Learn about Expanded Access and other Treatment Options (/patients/learn-about-expanded-access-and-other-treatment-options)

Learn about treatment options for when a patient does not respond to current approved treatments.

Clinical Trials: What Patients Need to Know (/patients/clinical-trials-what-patients-need-know)

Learn more about clinical trials and find a trial that might be right for you.

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PATIENT PERSPECTIVES

Patients Matter Video Series (/patients/learn-about-fda-patient-engagement/patients-matter-video-series)

Watch short videos developed to inform patients and other stakeholders about FDA patient initiatives and patient engagement efforts.

When a Patient Speaks: Testimonials from FDA Patient Representatives (/patients/learn-about-fda-patient-engagement/when-patient-speaks-testimonials-fda-patient-representatives)

Watch short videos where FDA Patient Representatives share what it means to serve in their unique role.

Patient Listening Sessions (/patients/learn-about-fda-patient-engagement/fda-patient-listening-sessions)

Patients, caregivers, advocates and community representatives can share their experiences, perspectives, and needs related to their health or a disease by talking directly with FDA staff.

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LEARN MORE

About the Patient Affairs Staff (/about-fda/office-clinical-policy-and-programs/patient-affairs-staff)

Learn more about FDA's Patient Affairs Staff. We help patients become more informed and involved in FDA regulatory decisions related to medical products.

About FDA Advisory Committees (/patients/learn-about-fda-advisory-committees)

Learn more about why and how FDA advisory committees weigh the available scientific evidence and provide scientific advice on the safety, effectiveness, and appropriate use of FDA regulated products.

About Rare Diseases (/patients/rare-diseases-fda)

Learn more about rare diseases and how FDA supports the development of treatments for rare diseases.

FDA PUBLIC MEETINGS

FDA Advisory Committee Calendar (/advisory-committees/advisory-committee-calendar)

FDA Meetings, Conferences and Workshops (/news-events/fda-meetings-conferences-and-workshops)

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CDER (Drugs) Meetings, Conferences and Workshops (/drugs/news-events-human-drugs/meetings-conferences-workshops-drugs)

CBER (Biologics) Meetings, Conferences and Workshops (/vaccines-blood-biologics/news-events-biologics/workshops-meetings-conferences-biologics)

CDRH (Medical Devices) Meetings, Conferences and Workshops (/node/360404)

CONTACT THE FDA PATIENT AFFAIRS STAFF

(301) 796-8460

Patient Affairs Staff

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @FDAPATIENTINFO (HTTPS://TWITTER.COM/FDAPATIENTINFO) **(HTTP://WWW.FDA.GOV/ABOUT-FDA/WEBSITE-POLICIES/WEBSITE-DISCLAIMER)**

Tweets covering a range of FDA-specific topics and numerous activities that are of interest to patients.

PATIENTS ASK FDA CONTACT FORM (HTTPS://WWW.ACCESSDATA.FDA.GOV/SCRIPTS/CDER/EMAIL/DSP_ESMR.CFM)

Submit a question or meeting request through the Request to Connect webform

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REVIEW *Clinical advice you can trust*

More Than Meets the Dry Eye
Experts share their examination methods and tools when diagnosing patients with dry-eye disease.

September 2024

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Featured Content

Dry Eye
Spruce Up Your DED Algorithm
Several new treatments are available now. Here's how experts are integrating them into their dry-eye management.

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Practice Management

EHR: Is It Time to Make the Switch?

Transitioning to a new EHR system can be a time-consuming and challenging process. Here, those with experience offer advice on how to make it go as smoothly as possible.

Cataract

Navigating Challenging Cataract Cases

Surgeons reveal how they encountered unexpected difficulties—and overcame them.

Meetings

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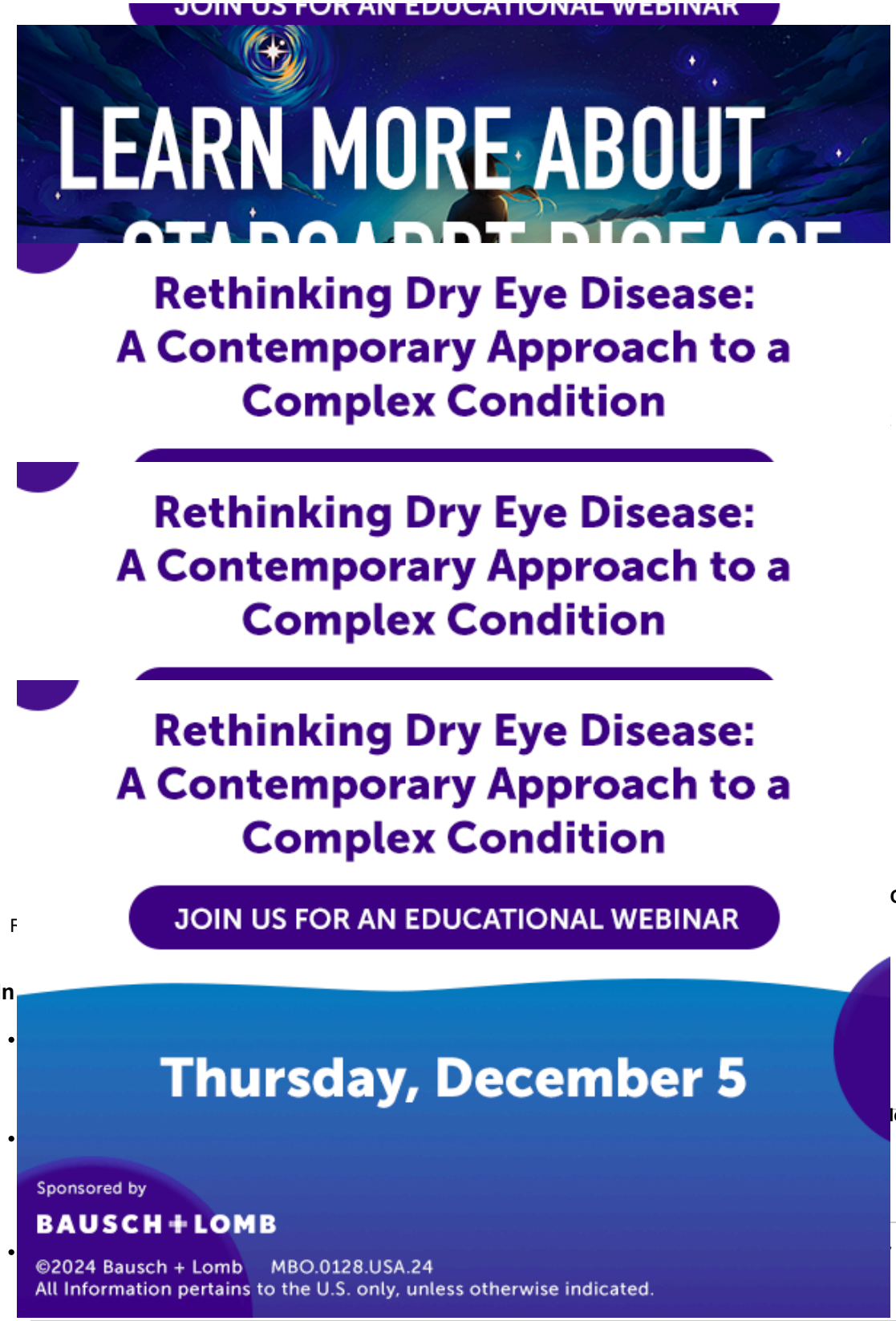

Condition

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ICL Implantation

Thursday, December 5, 2024 | Rethinking Dry Eye Disease: A Contemporary Approach to a Complex Condition

- **Baseline Sattler Layer Choriocapillaris Complex Thickness Cutoffs & AMD Progression**
  Discover whether choroidal impairment contributes to disease progression.

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- **Industry News**

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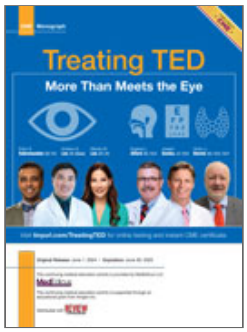
Continuing Medical Education



Treating TED: More Than Meets the Eye

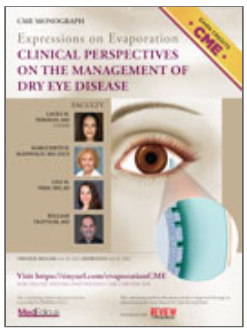
This educational activity aims to equip oculoplastic surgeons and ophthalmologists with advanced knowledge of the diagnosis, individualized treatment planning, and management of thyroid eye disease (TED), highlighting the importance of a collaborative, multidisciplinary care team.

Credits: 1.5 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™*

1.5 Participation

Seeing Eye to Eye on the Management of Neurotrophic Keratitis

This educational activity features real-world cases of patients with various stages of NK and aims to provide ophthalmologists with clinical data and pearls to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of NK.



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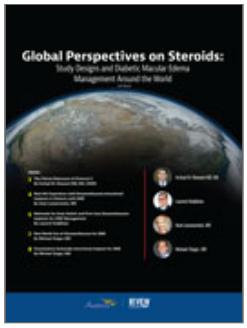
Expressions on Evaporation: Clinical Perspectives on the Management of Dry Eye Disease

Corneal nerves have an essential role in maintaining ocular surface health and homeostasis. Manifestations of neurosensory abnormalities affecting corneal innervation include dry eye disease, neurotrophic keratopathy, and neuropathic corneal pain. These conditions can exist as a standalone entity, but they can also be concurrent and have overlapping features, making diagnosis challenging. Early diagnosis of dry eye disease, neurotrophic keratopathy, and neuropathic corneal pain is important to allow intervention that can help to restore function and improve quality of life. This educational activity reviews common diagnostic modalities that can be used by clinicians to identify these conditions.

Credit: Physicians: 1.00 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*™



Global Perspectives on Steroids: Study Designs and Diabetic Macular Edema Management Around the World (Text-based)

Earn free CME credits learning about the 1) Clinical Relevance of Protocol U 2) Real-life Experience with Dexamethasone Intravitreal Implants in Patients with DME 3) the Rationale for Early-Switch and First-Line Dexamethasone Implants for DME Management 4) Real World Use of Dexamethasone for DME and 5) the Fluocinolone Acetonide Intravitreal Implant for DME

Credit: Physicians: 0.50 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*™

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Problem-Based Learning: Diagnosing and Managing Neurotrophic Keratitis

Join clinical experts as they discuss a problem-based learning approach to enhance cognition of best practices for diagnosing and managing neurotrophic keratitis (NK).

Credit: Physicians: 0.50 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*™

View More CME

Additional Publications

Advanced Retinal Imaging Becomes Part of Routine Care

Sponsored by iCare

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Review of Cornea & External Disease 2024

July 2024 Ophthalmic Product Guide

Reaping the Benefits of Serum Tears in Practice

The Value of Real Tears

February 2024 Ophthalmic Product Guide

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REVIEW *Clinical advice you can trust*

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Dry AMD: From Theory to Treatment
Sep 14, 2006 ... Dry AMD: From Theory to Treatment. Effective treatment options for dry AMD are not currently available, but genetic studies are showing ...
09/14/2006 Kimberly A. Howes, PhD, Wolfgang Baehr, PhD Salt Lake City, and Krzysztof Palczewski, PhD Cleveland

Review of Ophthalmology Issue for Sep 2006
Retinal Insider: Dry AMD: From Theory to Treatment. Effective treatment options for dry AMD are not currently available, but genetic studies are showing ...

https://www.reviewofophthalmology.com/sitemap.xml
... dry-amd-from-theory-to-treatment

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The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20081210045453/http://www.chemocare.com:80/bio/isotretinoin.asp

Chemotherapy Drugs

Isotretinoin

Trade Name: Accutane ®
Other Name: 13-cis-Retinoic Acid

Drug Type:

Isotretinoin is an anti-cancer drug. Isotretinoin is classified as a retinoid. (For m
detail, see "How Isotretinoin Works" section below).

What Isotretinoin Is Used For:

- Being investigated for use treating various different cancers.
- Treatment of severe acne.

Note: If a drug has been approved for one use, physicians sometimes elect to us
same drug for other problems if they believe it might be helpful.

How Isotretinoin Is Given:

- By mouth in the form of a soft gelatin capsule, capsule sizes are 10, 20 and 4
- Protect capsules from light.
- Take capsules with a meal and a full glass of liquid.
- The amount of Isotretinoin you will receive depends on many factors, includi
  height and weight, your general health or other health problems, and the type
  you have. Your doctor will determine your dosage and schedule.

Side Effects of Isotretinoin:

Important things to remember about the side effects of Isotretinoin:

- Most people do not experience all of the side effects listed.
- Side effects are often predictable in terms of their onset and duration.
- Side effects are almost always reversible and will go away after treatment is c
- There are many options to help minimize or prevent side effects.
- There is no relationship between the presence or severity of side effects and t
  effectiveness of the medication.

The following side effects are common (occurring in more than 30%) for patien
Isotretinoin:

- Typical retinoid toxicity (symptoms that are similar to those found in patients
  high doses of vitamin A)
- Headache

- Fever
- Dry skin
- Dry mucous membranes (mouth, nose)
- Back pain
- Nausea and vomiting
- Rash
- Mouth sores
- Itching
- Sweating
- Eyesight changes

These are less common side effects (occurring in 10-29%) for patients receiving Isotretinoin:

- Back pain
- Muscle pain
- Joint pain
- Allergic reaction
- Abdominal pain
- Poor appetite
- Dizziness
- Drowsiness
- Insomnia
- Anxiety
- Numbness and tingling
- Weakness
- Depression
- Hair loss (thinning)
- Dry eyes, sensitivity to light (see eye problems)
- Decreased night vision, which may persist after treatment is stopped
- Swelling of the feet or ankles
- Low blood counts. Your white and red blood cells and platelets may tempora decrease. This can put you at increased risk for infection, anemia and/or ble
- Blood test abnormalities: increased triglyceride, cholesterol and/or blood sug
- Increases in blood tests measuring liver function. These return to normal onc treatment is discontinued (see liver problems).

Rare but serious possible side effects of Isotretinoin:

- Blood clots. Blood clots rarely can lead to pulmonary embolus or stroke - po life-threatening conditions.
- Pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas) is a rare side effect. Mainly noted tests that return to normal after therapy is discontinued. Rarely may be sever symptoms. Symptoms of acute pancreatitis include pain in the upper abdome worsens with eating, swollen and tender abdomen, nausea, vomiting, fever, a pulse. If these symptoms occur notify your health care professional immedia
- A very serious side effect that has been observed in patients that have taken medications similar to Isotretinoin for treatment of leukemia, is called APL differentiation syndrome. This syndrome is a reaction between the drug and t leukemia. It is preventable with proper monitoring and immediate treatment.

syndrome produces fever, difficulty breathing, weight gain, lung and heart pr
It is generally treated with high-dose steroids. Be sure to let your health care
professional know if you experience fever of 100.5F or 38C, difficulty breath
sudden weight gain.

*Not all side effects are listed above, some that are rare (occurring in less than 1
patients) are not listed here. However, you should always inform your health ca
provider if you experience any unusual symptoms.*

When To Contact Your Doctor or Health Care Provider:

Contact your health care provider immediately, day or night, if you should expe
of the following symptoms:

- Shortness of breath, wheezing, difficulty breathing, closing up of the throat, s
of facial features, hives (possible allergic reaction)
- Fever of 100.5 F (38 C) or higher, chills (possible signs of infection)
- Having thoughts or feeling like you may want to harm yourself or others
- Difficulty breathing, sudden weight gain, swelling, vision changes
- Severe abdominal pain

The following symptoms require medical attention, but are not emergency situa
Contact your health care provider within 24 hours of noticing any of the followi

- Black or tarry stools, or blood in your stools or urine
- Unusual bleeding or bruising
- Abdominal cramping
- Nausea (interferes with ability to eat and unrelieved with prescribed medicati
- Vomiting (more than 4-5 episodes within a 24-hour period)
- Diarrhea (more than 4-6 episodes in a 24-hour period)
- Mouth sores (painful redness, swelling or ulcers)
- Extreme fatigue (inability to perform self-care activities)
- Anxiety, changes in thinking or mood, confusion, difficulty concentrating or
sleeping, aggressive or violent behavior, or suicidal thoughts.
- Depressed (interfering with your ability to carry on your regular activities)
- Ringing in the ears, problems with hearing
- Yellowing of the skin or eyes

Always inform your health care provider if you experience any unusual sympto

Isotretinoin Precautions:

- Before starting Isotretinoin treatment, make sure you tell your doctor about a
medications you are taking (including prescription, over-the-counter, vitamin
remedies, etc.). Do not take aspirin, or products containing aspirin unless yo
specifically permits this.
- Do not take vitamin A supplements. Vitamin A in high doses has many of the
side effects as Isotretinoin. Taking both together may increase your chance o
side effects.

- Do not receive any kind of immunization or vaccination without your doctor'
while taking Isotretinoin.
- Inform your health care professional if you are pregnant or may be pregnant
starting this treatment. Pregnancy category X (Isotretinoin may cause fetal ha
given to a pregnant woman. Isotretinoin must not be given to a pregnant wo
woman who intends to become pregnant. If a woman becomes pregnant whi
Isotretinoin, the medication must be stopped immediately and the woman giv
appropriate counseling).
- Because of the extremely high risk that a deformed infant can result if pregna
occurs while taking Isotretinoin in any amount even for short periods of time,
men and women: Do not conceive a child (get pregnant) while taking Isotreti
methods of effective contraception are recommended for women of childbear
potential, unless absolute abstinence is the chosen method. Discuss with you
when you may safely become pregnant or conceive a child after therapy.
- Do not breast feed while taking Isotretinoin.

Isotretinoin Self Care Tips:

- Take Isotretinoin at about the same time every day along with a meal that inc
some fats.
- Avoid grapefruit juice
- Avoid wearing contact lenses if you have dry or irritated eyes
- Drink at least two to three quarts of fluid every 24 hours, unless you are instr
otherwise.
- You may be at risk of infection so try to avoid crowds or people with colds, a
fever or any other signs of infection immediately to your health care provider
- Wash your hands often.
- To reduce nausea, take anti-nausea medications as prescribed by your doctor,
small, frequent meals.
- To help treat/prevent mouth sores, use a soft toothbrush, and rinse three times
with 1/2 to 1 teaspoon of baking soda and/or 1/2 to 1 teaspoon of salt mixed w
ounces of water.
- When you start taking Isotretinoin, you may experience headache, loss of nig
sleepiness or eyesight changes. Use caution when driving or engaging in tas
requiring alertness until response to drug is known.
- Avoid sun exposure. Wear SPF 15 (or higher) sunblock and protective clothi
- In general, drinking alcoholic beverages should be kept to a minimum or avo
completely. You should discuss this with your doctor.
- Get plenty of rest.
- Maintain good nutrition.
- If you experience symptoms or side effects, be sure to discuss them with your
care team. They can prescribe medications and/or offer other suggestions tha
effective in managing such problems.

Monitoring and Testing While Taking Isotretinoin:

You will be monitored regularly by your health care professional while you are t
Isotretinoin to monitor side effects and check your response to therapy. For wo
childbearing age, a pregnancy test is required one week prior to beginning this t
and every month during treatment. Blood counts and lipid (fats, cholesterol) lev

liver function all need to be analyzed before treatment begins and regularly duri
treatment. These are measured through blood tests.

How Isotretinoin Works:

Retinoids are drugs that are relatives of vitamin A. Retinoids control normal cel
cell differentiation (the normal process of making cells different from each othe
cell death during embryonic development and in certain tissues later in life. Ret
effects on the cells are controlled by receptors on the nucleus of each cell (nucle
receptors).

There are two major classes of retinoid nuclear receptors: retinoic acid receptor
and retinoid-X-receptors (RXR). There are also subtypes within each class. Eac
these types of receptors has different functions in different tissues. The differen
drugs work by binding to different receptors; which, in turn, affect cell growth a
differentiation.

Retinoids are relatively new types of anti-cancer drugs. They have been used al
combination to treat a variety of cancers such as skin cancers, cutaneous T-cell
lymphoma, acute promyelocytic leukemia, lung cancer, breast cancer, ovarian ca
bladder cancer, kidney cancer, and head and neck cancers. Retinoids have also
experimentally in an attempt to prevent certain types of cancer. There is ongoin
to determine their role in both cancer treatment and prevention.

Retinoids have been associated with side effects such as skin problems (dryness
itching, sun sensitivity), reversible elevation in liver enzymes, temporary abnorm
levels, low thyroid levels (hypothyroidism), and headaches. Taking supplement
of vitamin A may increase the side effects. Vitamin supplementation should be
with your physician.

Note: We strongly encourage you to talk with your health care professional abo
specific medical condition and treatments. The information contained in this we
meant to be helpful and educational, but is not a substitute for medical advice.

Chemocare.com is a program of the Scott Hamilton CARES initiative

Chemo Care is your source for chemotherapy, chemotherapy side effects and chemotherapy drug information.

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