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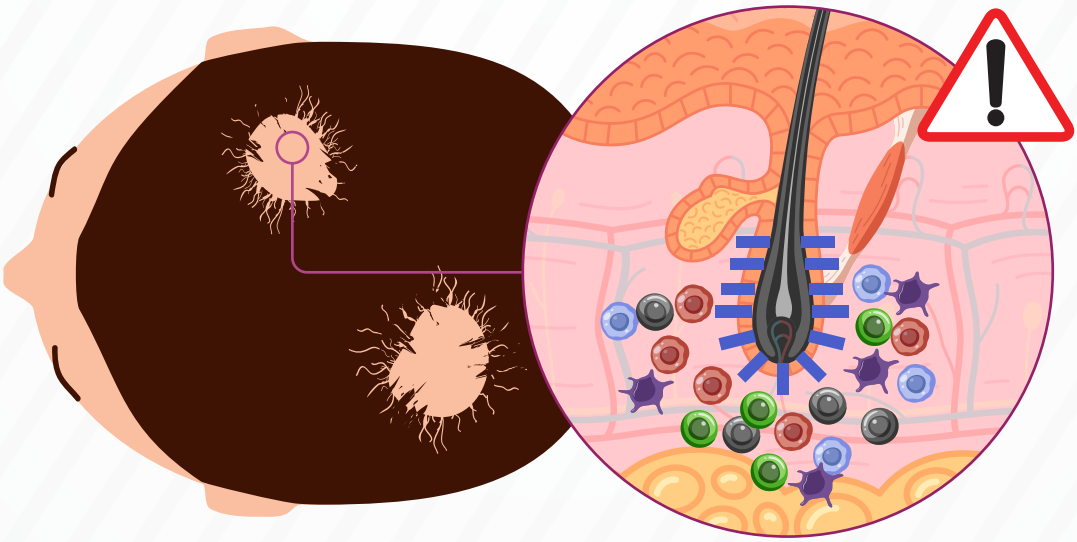
Analysing the Efficacy and Safety of Ritlecitinib in Adolescents with Alopecia Areata

This infographic reflects the content of the following article:
Hordinsky, M., Hebert, A. A., Gooderham, M., Kwon, O., Murashkin, N., Fang, H., Harada, K., Law, E., Wajsbrot, D., Takiya, L., Zwillich, S. H., Wolk, R., & Tran, H. (2023). Efficacy and safety of ritlecitinib in adolescents with alopecia areata: Results from the ALLEGRO phase 2b/3 randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. *Pediatric Dermatology, 40*(6), 1003–1009. https://doi.org/10.1111/pde.15378

Alopecia areata: Prevalence and impact[1–6]



Alopecia areata (AA) is an autoimmune disease in which the body's immune system attacks its own hair follicles

Characterised by nonscarring hair loss of the scalp, face, and/or body

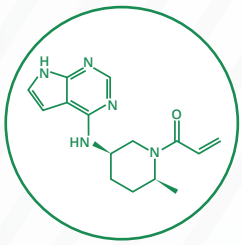
2% – globally prevalent

Extensive forms of AA
- Alopecia totalis (AT)
- Alopecia universalis (AU)

48% of the patients experience AA before 20 years of age

Impairs quality of life and psychosocial well-being, especially in children and adolescents

ALLEGRO-2b/3 study and ritlecitinib[7]



Ritlecitinib is an oral, selective dual inhibitor of Janus kinase 3 (JAK3) and Tec family kinases

Approved in the United States and Japan for treating AA in patients >12 years of age

An international, randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, multicentre study

ALLEGRO-2b/3

Investigated the efficacy and safety of ritlecitinib in patients >12 years old with AA

This study is a subgroup analysis that specifically evaluated the efficacy and safety of ritlecitinib in patients aged between 12 to 17 years from the ALLEGRO-2b/3 trial

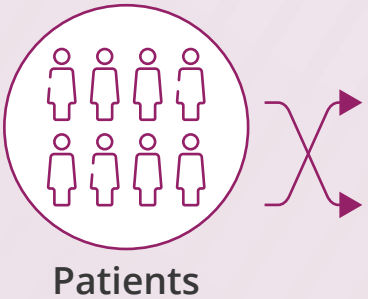
Participants

Adolescents aged 12 to 17 years with AA

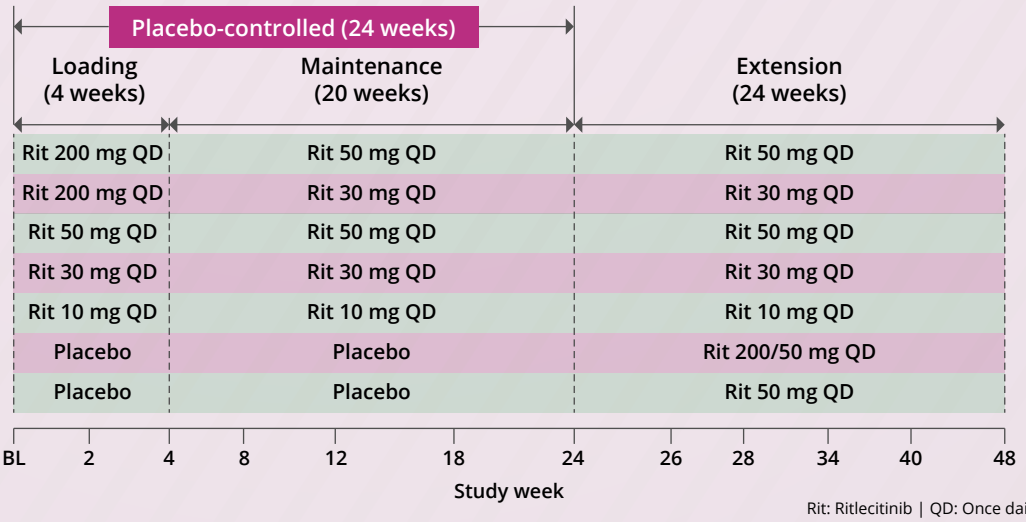
>50% hair loss

Current AA episode duration: 6 months to 10 years

Study design



Patients



Rit: Ritlecitinib | QD: Once daily

Exploring the efficacy of ritlecitinib in adolescents with AA aged 12 to 17 years

105 adolescents

43%
AT/AU

Mean disease duration – 6.5 years

At week 24: ritlecitinib vs. placebo

In the ritlecitinib group (receiving ≥30 mg)

17%–28% achieved Severity of Alopecia Tool (SALT) score <20

↑A high proportions of patients achieved eyebrow and eyelash regrowth responses

↑ Proportion of adolescents
↑ Hair regrowth (PGI-C)
↑ Satisfaction (P-Sat)
↓ Hair loss scores (AAPPO)

45%–61% of adolescents experienced moderate or great improvements in AA

At week 48: ritlecitinib vs. placebo

Efficacy maintained and improved

Efficacy demonstrated by ritlecitinib in the adolescent subgroup was consistent with the total study population (adults + adolescents)

AAPPO: Alopecia Areata Patient Priority Outcome
PGI-C: Patient Global Impression of Change
P-Sat: Patient Satisfaction with Hair Growth

Safety profile of ritlecitinib in adolescents with AA[8]

48 weeks

In the ritlecitinib group

65%–83% reported adverse events (AEs)

Most common AEs

- Acne
- Headache
- Nasopharyngitis

Mild to moderate severity

Serious AEs in 3 adolescents

- Appendicitis (patient in the 200/30 mg group)
- Eczema (patient in the 10 mg group)
- Suicidal behaviour (patient in the 10 mg group)

2 patients discontinued due to:

- Eczema (patient in the 10 mg group)
- Urticaria (patient in the 50 mg group)

Ritlecitinib was safe and well-tolerated at all doses in adolescent patients, consistent with the total study population (adults + adolescents)

Conclusions[8,9]

- AA is an autoimmune disorder that causes nonscarring hair loss and significantly impairs patient's quality of life
- Ritlecitinib is an oral, selective dual inhibitor of JAK3 and Tec family kinases
- Ritlecitinib treatment in adolescents with AA for 48 weeks exhibited significant clinician-reported efficacy, patient-reported improvement, and an acceptable safety profile
- Ritlecitinib efficacy and tolerability in adolescents are consistent with outcomes reported for the total study population

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