Addressing the Unmet Needs of Patients With Moderate to Severe Psoriasis

A Visual Exploration of Disease Pathogenesis and the Clinical Potential of Targeting the TYK2 Pathway as a Novel Non-Biologic Oral Therapeutic Option

Activity Description and Educational Objectives

Psoriasis is a chronic immune-mediated disorder that impairs patients' physical health, quality of life, and work productivity. Almost one-fifth of affected persons have moderate to severe disease, with extensive skin involvement affecting at least 3% of the body surface area. Systemic treatments are usually administered to patients with moderate to severe disease. Despite available oral and injectable treatments for psoriasis, additional oral treatments could be useful.

The Janus Kinase–Signal Transducer and Activator of Transcription (JAK–STAT) pathway plays a significant role in intracellular signaling of cytokines of numerous cellular processes, important in both normal and pathological states of immune-mediated inflammatory diseases. Particularly in psoriasis, where the interleukin (IL)-23/IL-17 axis is currently considered the crucial pathogenic pathway, blocking the JAK/STAT pathway with small molecules would be expected to be clinically effective. However, relative nonspecificity and low therapeutic index of the available JAK inhibitors have delayed their integration into the therapeutic armamentarium of psoriasis. Thus, current research has shifted focus to Tyrosine kinase 2 (TYK2), the first described member of the JAK family.

In these PeerView regional meetings, our experts will offer insight into the complex pathogenesis that underlies psoriasis and other inflammatory autoimmune conditions, focusing on the rationale for TYK2 inhibition as a therapeutic strategy. In addition, key information (eg, selectivity, side-effect profiles, dosing) for kinase inhibitors in development that are targeting the TYK2 pathway for the treatment of psoriasis will be provided, as well as the most up-to-date clinical trial data.

Upon completion of this activity, participants should be better able to:

- Explain the role of the JAK/STAT signaling pathway in the pathophysiology of psoriasis
- Summarize efficacy and safety data related to current and emerging kinase inhibitors for the treatment of psoriasis
- Treat moderate to severe psoriasis in accordance with current evidence and guidelines, recognizing the role of non-biologic therapies in addressing the burden of disease and comorbidities in individual patients

Target Audience

The activity will be designed to meet the educational needs of dermatologists, as well as to the broader multidisciplinary and interprofessional community involved in the care of patients with psoriasis (ie, primary care physicians, rheumatologists, and advanced practice clinicians [NPs/PAs]).

Requirements for Successful Completion

In order to receive credit, participants must attend the live activity and complete the evaluation and request for credit. There are no prerequisites and there is no fee to participate in this activity or to receive CME credit. Statements of Credit are awarded upon completion of the evaluation and request for credit at the end of the post-test and evaluation form.

Physician Continuing Medical Education:

Medical Learning Institute, Inc. is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The Medical Learning Institute, Inc. designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

This activity is developed with our educational partner, PVI, PeerView Institute for Medical Education.

This activity is supported through an educational grant from Bristol Myers Squibb.

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Andrew Blauvelt, MD, MBA, has a financial interest/relationship or affiliation in the form of:
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