

Observational Study into the Application of Care Skin med

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Study Objective

To monitor in everyday life the efficacy, tolerability and acceptability of Care Skin med on usage in patients with subacute to chronic eczema of the hands.

The observational study was carried out at the Department of Dermatology, Inselspital, University Hospital, Bern between September 2007 until May 2008. 82 patients (38 women, 44 men) were included with hand eczema. The average age was 42 years (ranging from 16 to 91 years). The average duration of hand eczema was given as 4 years (ranging from 2 months to 35 years). 27 patients had Dyshidrosis (acute vesiculobullous hand eczema) and in 49 patients Hyperkeratotic fissured hand eczema. 63% of patients were atopic.

The main activities of study participants were 13x medical professions; 12x metalworkers/fitter/mechanic; 12x manual professions; 9x employed in kitchens /service/food; 7x office workers; 7x housewife/husband; 5x farmer/gardener; 4x pensioner; 2x school pupil/student . Special risk factors were specified as 30x wet work; 18x dirt and dust; and 12x handling chemicals.

Care Skin med was applied on average 1.6 times per day (n = 80). 42 Patients 1 application/day; 29 patients 2 applications/day; and 9 patients 3 applications/day. The duration of use averaged 3.4 weeks (n = 81). 8 patients 1 week; 8 patients 2 weeks; 11 patients 3 weeks; and 54 patients 4 weeks.

91% of patients (n = 81) evaluated the protective function of skin care as positive. Three-quarters (75%) of the patients were very satisfied with the protective function. 27 patients evaluated the protective function as very good; 34 as good; 13 as moderate. Only in 7 patients the protective effect was considered to be not sufficient.

The cosmetic acceptance (n = 80) was evaluated in 86% as very satisfactory. 45%(36)of patients judged the application of the foam as very good; 41%(33) as good. 9 patients reported an assessment of moderate and 2 patients were not satisfied.

79%(63) patients stated that they want to continue the treatment with Care Skin med. 17 patients (7 female , 10 male) discontinued therapy or did not want to continue with it. A correlation to other factors such as atopy could not be deduced. Reasons given in 8 cases were insufficient effect (without correlation to professional activity) and in 3 cases side effects such as itching (1x), burning (1x) and skin irritation (1x). In 3 patients there were compliance failures.

In summary it can be stated that the vast majority of patients with hand eczema were very satisfied with the product Care Skin med. They assessed both the protective function and the cosmetic acceptability as good to very good and wanted to continue usage.

Figures

Figure 1 Proportion of men / women of the 82 enrolled in the observational study patients.

Figure 2 Patient Assessment of the protective function of Care Skin med (N=81).

Figure 3 Patient Assessment of cosmetic acceptability (N=80)

Figure 4 Preference on Continuation of the application of Care Skin med after the Observation Period (N=80).

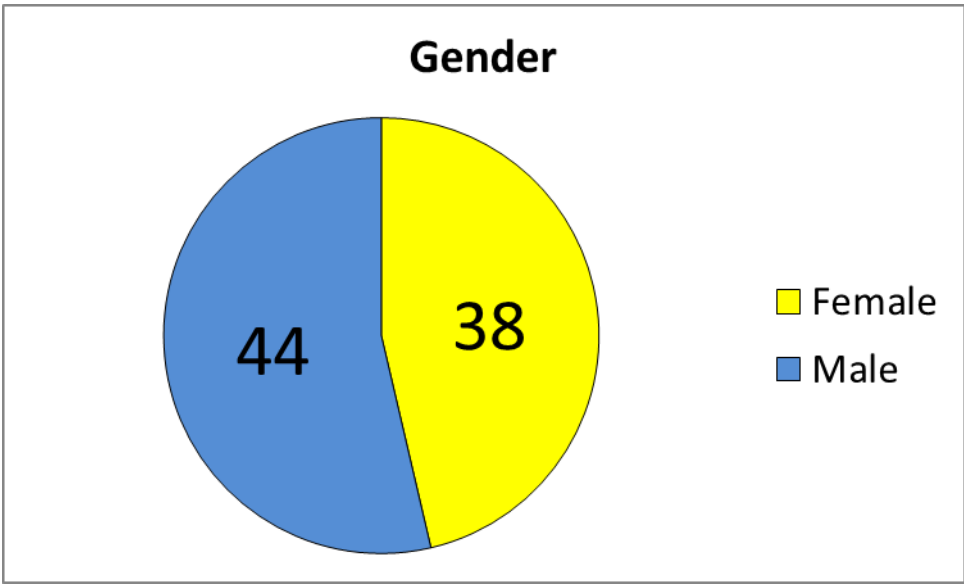


Fig. 1

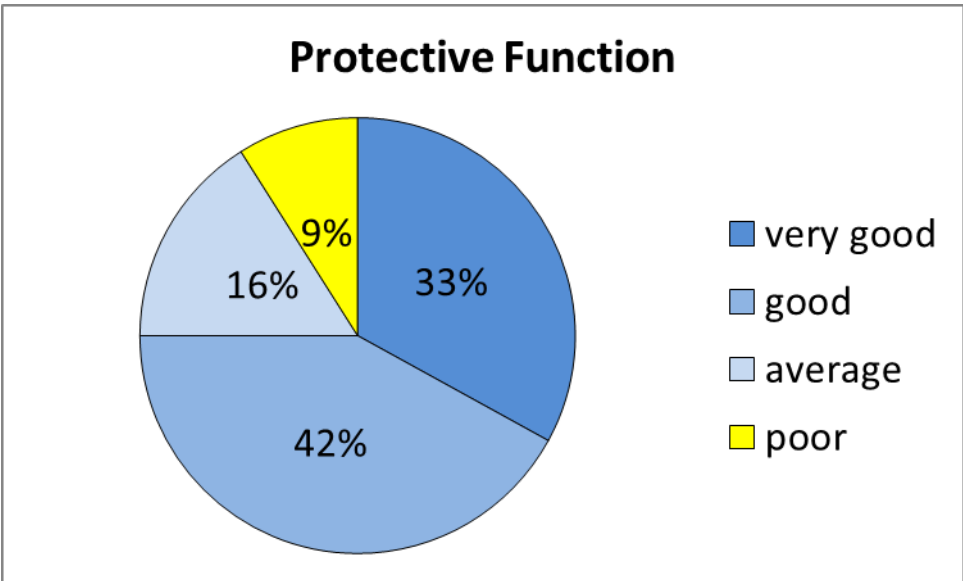


Fig. 2

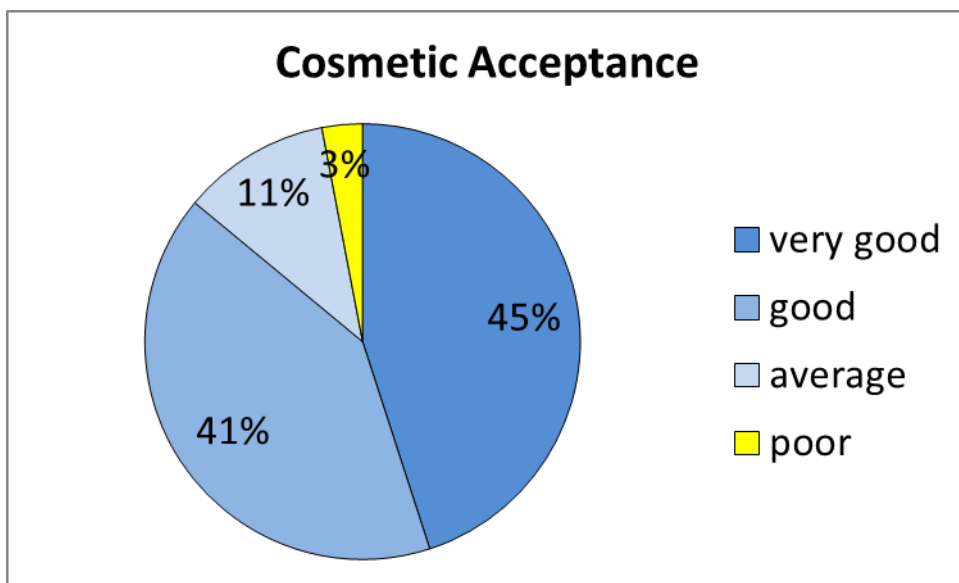


Fig. 3

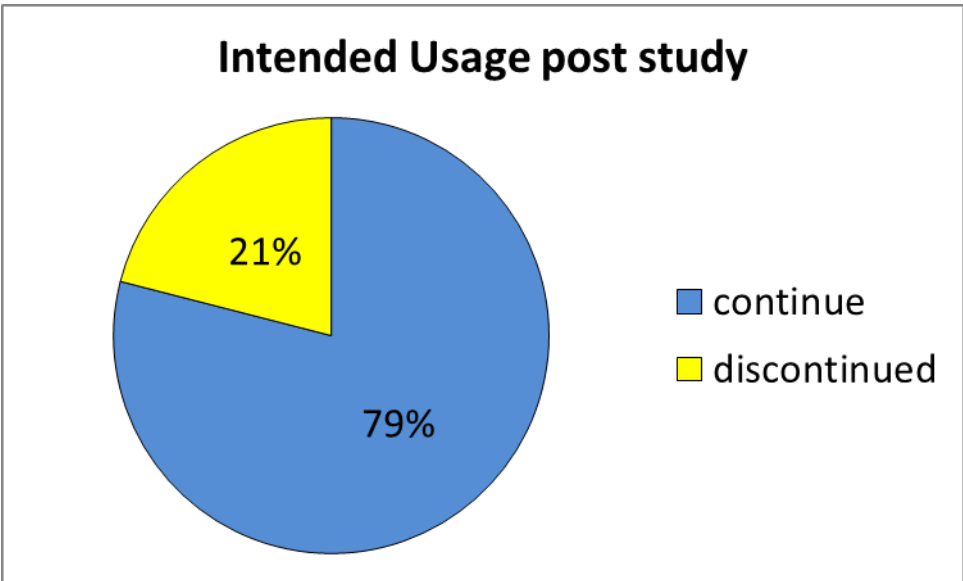


Fig. 4