

Secukinumab Provides High Overall Treatment Satisfaction in Terms of Overall Symptom Improvement, Speed of Symptom Improvement, Medication Frequency, Ease of Use, and Side Effects: Real-World Evidence

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BACKGROUND

Plaque Psoriasis

- Psoriasis is a chronic, relapsing dermatologic disease. Plaque psoriasis (also called psoriasis vulgaris), the most frequent clinical presentation, is characterized by erythematous plaques and scaling that can cause potentially severe pain and pruritus.¹
- Psoriasis affects an estimated 7.5 million individuals in the United States (US) and may cause considerable impairments in quality of life and functioning.^{1,3}
- Biologic therapy is recommended for patients with moderate-to-severe psoriasis.¹
 - The fully human anti-interleukin-17A monoclonal antibody secukinumab has shown efficacy relative to other biologics in improving symptoms and quality of life in patients with psoriasis.³
 - Limited real-world data characterizing patients' experiences and satisfaction with secukinumab treatment are available due to approval in January 2015.

OBJECTIVE

- The aim of this real-world, cross-sectional survey was to describe the patient treatment experience and satisfaction among US patients with moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis who recently initiated or switched to secukinumab.

METHODS

- US patients aged ≥ 18 years with a self-reported diagnosis of moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis who had initiated secukinumab in the last 2 to 6 months were invited to participate in a cross-sectional, web-based survey.
 - Patients were recruited either via the National Psoriasis Foundation's web-based newsletter or through a psoriasis group blog.
 - Patients were screened for eligibility and provided informed consent electronically before they completed the full survey.
- Patients' demographics, treatment history, and experiences with their most recent treatment and secukinumab were collected.

- Overall treatment satisfaction (satisfaction with aspects such as speed of symptom improvement and dosing frequency) was analyzed for secukinumab. These results were summarized by prior treatment type (biologic and nonbiologic) using the response categories "not satisfied," "somewhat satisfied," "mostly satisfied," and "very satisfied." Treatment satisfaction was defined as "mostly satisfied" and "very satisfied."
- Satisfaction was rated on various treatment domains: lack of side effects experienced, dosing frequency, convenience in taking it as instructed, ease of medication use, ease of medication planning, symptom improvement, and speed of symptom improvement.

ANALYTIC METHODS

- Data analyses were descriptive in nature.
 - Treatment satisfaction ratings were described using percentages.
 - Patient demographics were described using means and standard deviation (SD) for continuous variables and percentages for categorical variables.

RESULTS

Sample Characteristics and Demographics

- The study included 169 adults with moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis.
 - Prior to starting secukinumab, 77 patients (45.6%) were on a biologic, and 92 patients (54.4%) were on a nonbiologic.
 - On average, participants reported taking secukinumab for 3.7 months (SD = 1.3).
 - Mean (SD) age was 34.7 (10.5) years, and mean (SD) weight was 169 (42.4) pounds. The population was 64.5% male, 68.6% white, and 76.8% employed full-time, and 23.7% reported having PsA (Table 1).

Overall Treatment Experience and Satisfaction

- A majority of patients reported overall treatment satisfaction (mostly satisfied and very satisfied) with secukinumab on the following attributes:
 - Lack of side effects experienced (79.9%)
 - Dosing frequency (77%)
 - Convenience taking it as instructed (75.1%)
 - Ease of medication use (74.6%)
 - Ease of medication planning (69.8%)
 - Symptom improvement (69.2%)
 - Speed of symptom improvement (65.6%)

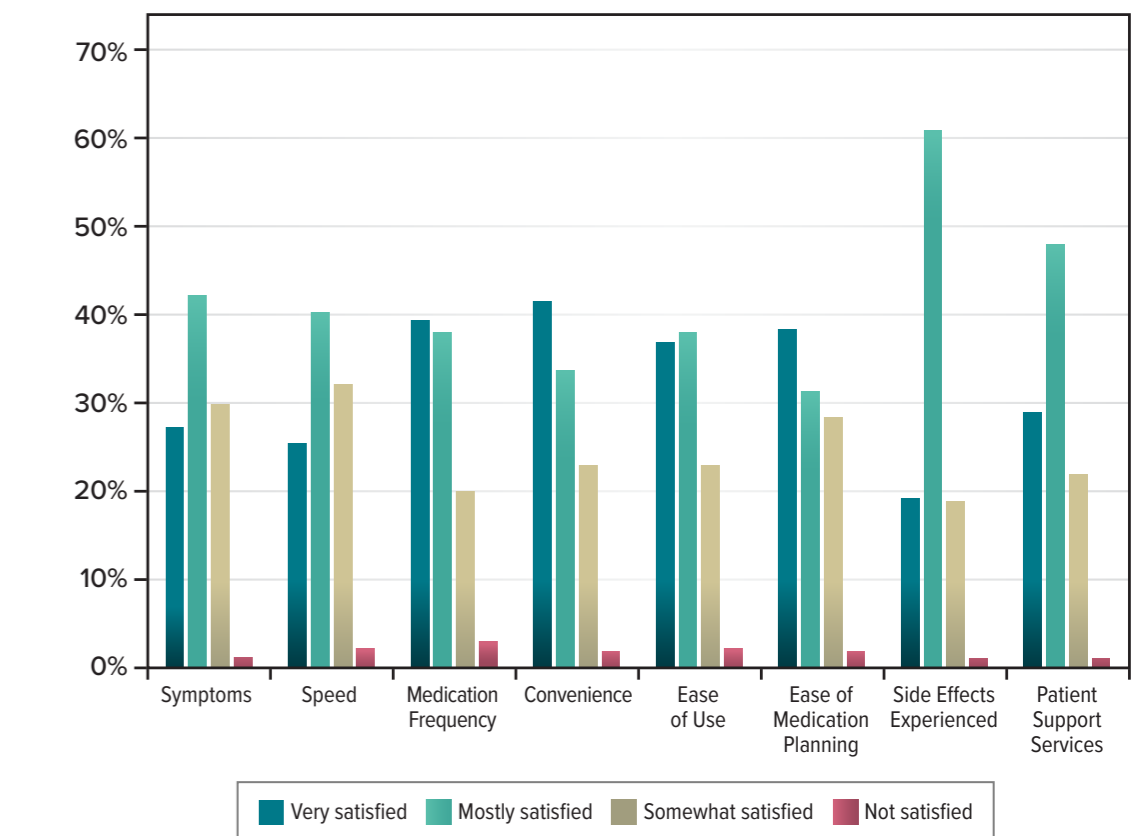
Table 1. Patient Demographics (N = 169)

Variable	n (%)
Age	
Mean (SD)	34.7 (10.5)
Gender	
Male	109 (64.5)
Race and/or ethnicity (select all that apply)^a	
White	116 (68.6)
Hispanic	14 (8.3)
Black	33 (19.5)
Employment status	
Employed full-time	129 (76.8)
Employed part-time/work at home/student	24 (14.3)
Disabled/unable to work	8 (4.8)
Weight at diagnosis (pounds)	n = 165
Mean (SD)	169 (42.4)
Current health conditions (select all that apply)	169
Anxiety	8 (4.7)
Chronic pain	16 (9.5)
Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis	3 (1.8)
Depression	9 (5.3)
Diabetes	5 (3.0)
Heart disease	1 (0.6)
High blood pressure (hypertension)	14 (8.3)
High cholesterol (hyperlipidemia)	6 (3.6)
Lymphoma/malignancy	2 (1.2)
Obesity	15 (8.9)
Peripheral vascular disease	4 (2.4)
Psoriatic arthritis	40 (23.7)
Skin cancer	3 (1.8)
Stroke (or had one in the past)	4 (2.4)
Time since plaque psoriasis diagnosis	169
Less than 1 year ago	2 (1.2)
1-2 years ago	37 (21.9)
3-4 years ago	92 (54.4)
5-9 years ago	8 (4.7)
10 or more years ago	30 (17.8)

^a No patients indicated that they were African American, Asian or Pacific Islander, Native American or Alaskan native, or other race.

Note: The number of patients who responded to a question was used as the denominator for the percentage reported.

Figure 1. Aspects of Overall Treatment Experience—Percentage of Respondents Who Rated Secukinumab With High Overall Treatment Satisfaction



CONCLUSIONS

- Patients with moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis who recently initiated or switched to secukinumab achieved high overall treatment satisfaction.

REFERENCES

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