NEW DRUG APPROVAL

Brand Name	Winlevi®
Generic Name	clascoterone
Drug Manufacturer	Cassiopea

New Drug Approval

FDA Approval Date: 08/26/2020

Review Designation: Standard

Type of Review: Type 1 - New Molecular Entity

Dispensing Restriction: Open Distribution

Place in Therapy

DISEASE DESCRIPTION & EPIDEMIOLOGY

Acne vulgaris is the formation of comedones, papules, pustules, nodules, and/or cysts as a result of obstruction and inflammation of pilosebaceous units (hair follicles and their accompanying sebaceous gland). Acne typically develops on the face and upper trunk.

As the most common skin condition in the United States, acne vulgaris affects up to 50 million Americans each year. It usually begins in puberty and impacts many adolescents and young adults, but acne can occur at any stage of life and may continue into a patient's 30s, 40s, and 50s. Approximately 85% of people between the ages of 12 and 24 experience at least minor acne.

Acne can be especially frustrating for adults, and it can become a growing problem for women over 25 years of age, who often experience fluctuating hormone levels.

Women tend to suffer from adult acne more often than men. Most of these women experienced acne as teens and continue to get breakouts as adults. Some of these women had teenage acne that cleared. Now, years later, they are experiencing acne breakouts again. About 20% to 40% of women with adult acne develop it for the first time as an adult.

Efficacy

A total of 1,440 patients were randomized in 2 identical multicenter, randomized, double-blind, vehicle-controlled, 12-week trials.

In Study CB-03-01/25, 353 participants were randomized to treatment with clascoterone cream, 1% (median [range] age, 18.0 [10–58] years; 221 [62.6%] female), and 355 participants were randomized to treatment with vehicle cream (median [range] age, 18.0 [9–50] years; 215 (60.6%) female).

In Study CB-03-01/26, 369 participants were randomized to treatment with clascoterone cream, 1% (median [range] age, 18.0 [10–50] years; 243 [65.9%] female), and 363 participants were randomized to treatment with vehicle cream (median [range] age, 18.0 [range, 11–42] years; 221 [60.9%] female).

At Week 12, treatment success rates in both studies with clascoterone cream, 1%, were 18.4% and 20.3% vs. 9.0% and 6.5% with vehicle, respectively.

At Week 12, in both studies, treatment with clascoterone cream, 1%, resulted in a significant reduction in absolute noninflammatory lesions from baseline to −19.4 and −19.4 vs. −13.0 and −10.8 with vehicle, respectively, as well

as a reduction in inflammatory lesions from baseline to −19.3 and −20.0 vs. −15.5 and −12.6 with vehicle, respectively.

Both studies met the primary efficacy endpoints.

Adverse events rates were low and mostly mild; the predominant local skin reaction was trace or mild erythema.

Safety

ADVERSE EVENTS

The most common adverse reactions occurring in 7 to 12% of patients are erythema/reddening, pruritus and scaling/dryness. Additionally, edema, stinging, and burning occurred in >3% of patients and were reported in a similar percentage of subjects treated with vehicle.

WARNINGS & PRECAUTIONS

- Local Irritation: Pruritus, burning, skin redness or peeling may be experienced with Winlevi® Cream.
- Hypothalamic- pituitary- adrenal (HPA) axis suppression may occur during or after treatment with clascoterone cream.
- Paediatric patients may be more susceptible to systemic toxicity.
- Hyperkalemia: Elevated potassium levels were observed in some subjects during the clinical trials.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

None

Clinical Pharmacology

MECHANISMS OF ACTION

Clascoterone is an androgen receptor inhibitor. The mechanism of action of Winlevi® cream for the topical treatment of acne vulgaris is unknown, but laboratory studies suggest the active ingredient, clascoterone, competes with androgens, specifically dihydrotestosterone (DHT), for binding to the androgen receptors within the sebaceous gland and hair follicles.

Dose & Administration

ADULTS

Apply a thin layer (approximately 1 gram) to affected area twice daily (morning and evening). Avoid contact with eyes, mouth, and mucous membranes.

PEDIATRICS

Safety and effectiveness has not been established in pediatric patients under 12 years of age. If age ≥ 12 years, refer to adult dosing.

GERIATRICS

Clinical studies of Winlevi® cream did not include sufficient numbers of subjects aged 65 years of age and over to determine whether they respond differently from younger subjects. In general, dose selection for an elderly patient should be cautious, usually starting at the low end and dosing range, reflecting the greater frequency of decreased hepatic, renal, or cardiac function, and of concomitant disease or other drug therapy.

RENAL IMPAIRMENT

Not available.

HEPATIC IMPAIRMENT

Not available.

Product Availability

DOSAGE FORM(S) & STRENGTH(S)

Topical cream, 1%.