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LABORATOIRE A-DERMA

Benefit of an emollient containing Rhealba oat and *Helichrysum g.* in combination with tacrolimus 0.1% in patients with eyelid atopic dermatitis: a randomized, intra-individual, split-face study

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Introduction & Objectives

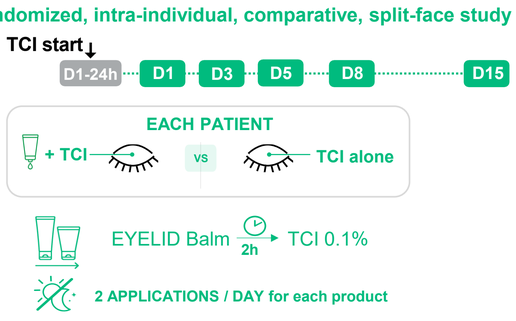
Atopic dermatitis (AD) is a chronic, relapsing inflammatory skin disease with a significant impact on quality of life. Eyelid involvement is common and particularly challenging due to the thinness, high sensitivity and visibility of the periocular skin. **Topical calcineurin inhibitors (TCI)**, such as tacrolimus, are recommended for the treatment of eyelid AD flare-ups to avoid steroid-related adverse effects in such a sensitive area. However, burning and pruritus are frequently reported, especially at treatment initiation, and may negatively affect patient comfort and adherence.

A **new emollient balm** specifically dedicated to the eyelid area, containing **Rhealba oat** and ***Helichrysum gymnocephalum (H.g.),*** has been developed. The aim of this study was to assess the benefit of this new product when applied in association with **tacrolimus 0.1%** in subjects suffering from eyelid AD flare-ups.

Materials & Methods

STUDY DESIGN

Randomized, intra-individual, comparative, split-face study



MAIN INCLUSION CRITERIA

- **Eyelid AD flare-up** with bilateral involvement of similar extent and intensity, requiring TCI treatment (**tacrolimus 0.1%**) initiated within the previous 24h
- **Local (L)-SCORAD**: no more than 1 point difference between eyelids
- **Xerosis intensity ≥1** (mild) & **erythema =2** (moderate) on a 0–3 scale (no more than 1 point difference between eyelids)
- **Pruritus intensity & discomfort sensation ≥4** (average over the past 24h, 0–10 numeric rating scale, NRS) (no more than 1 point difference between eyelids)

EVALUATIONS

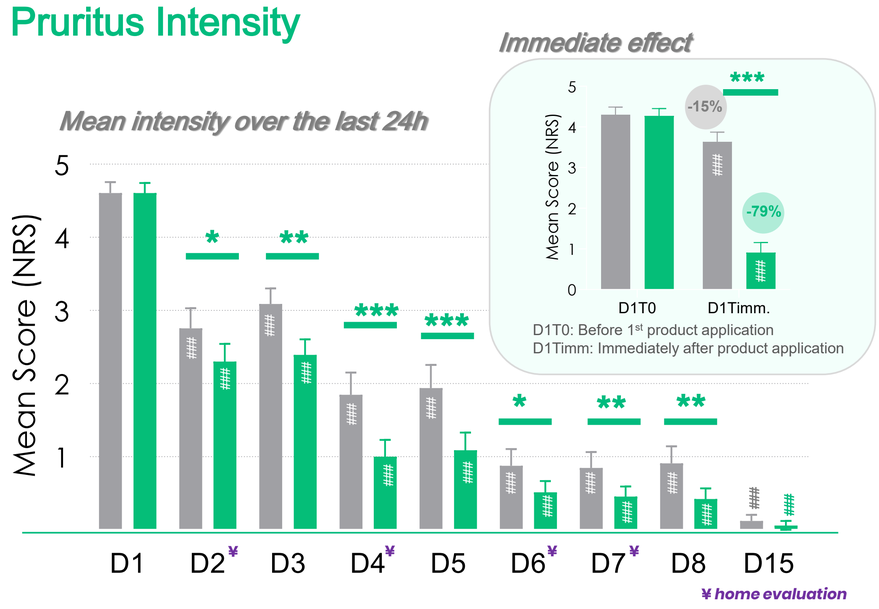
- PRURITUS & DISCOMFORT (NRS)
- ATOPIC DERMATITIS SEVERITY (Local-SCORAD and Sub-parameters)
- GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF EVOLUTION BY INVESTIGATOR (IGA) & SUBJECT (SGA)
- TOLERABILITY
- COSMETIC ACCEPTABILITY & PERCEIVED EFFICACY

POPULATION

- **33** adults with bilateral eyelid AD similar surface & intensity
- **18–50 y** mean age 28 years
- **64% / 36%** women / men
- **4.5** (TCI) **/ 4.5** (TCI+eyelid balm) mean L-SCORAD per eyelid
- **97% / 3%** phototype II / III

Results

Pruritus Intensity

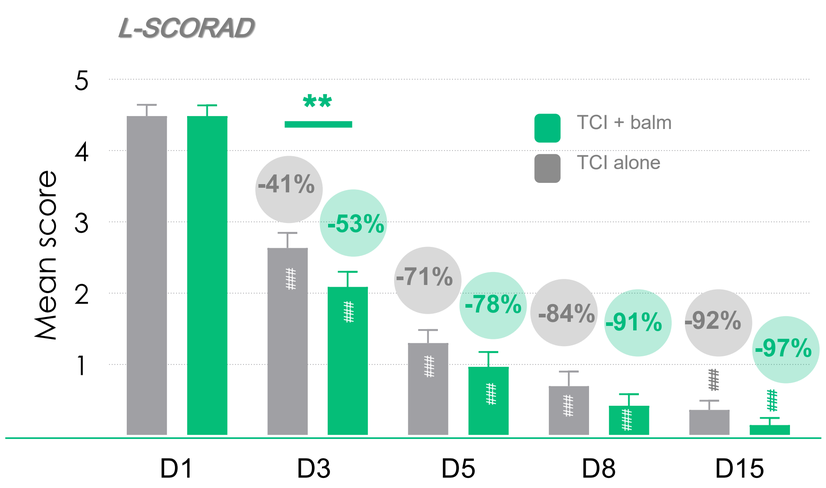


NUMERIC RATINGSCALE (NRS): 0 (no itch) to 10 (worst imaginable itch)

Mean ± SEM
- * p<0.05; ** p<0.01; *** p<0.001 Intergroup analysis
- ### p<0.001 vs baseline

TCI + balm
TCI alone

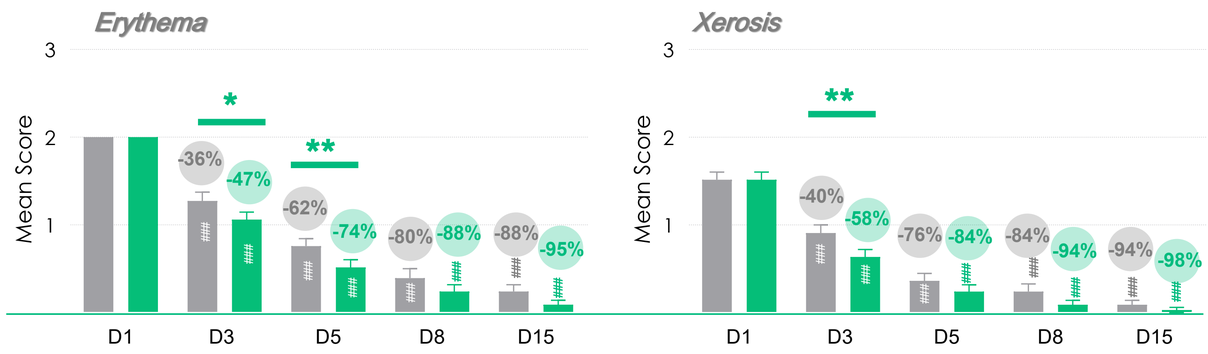
AD severity



L-SCORAD (0 TO 18)

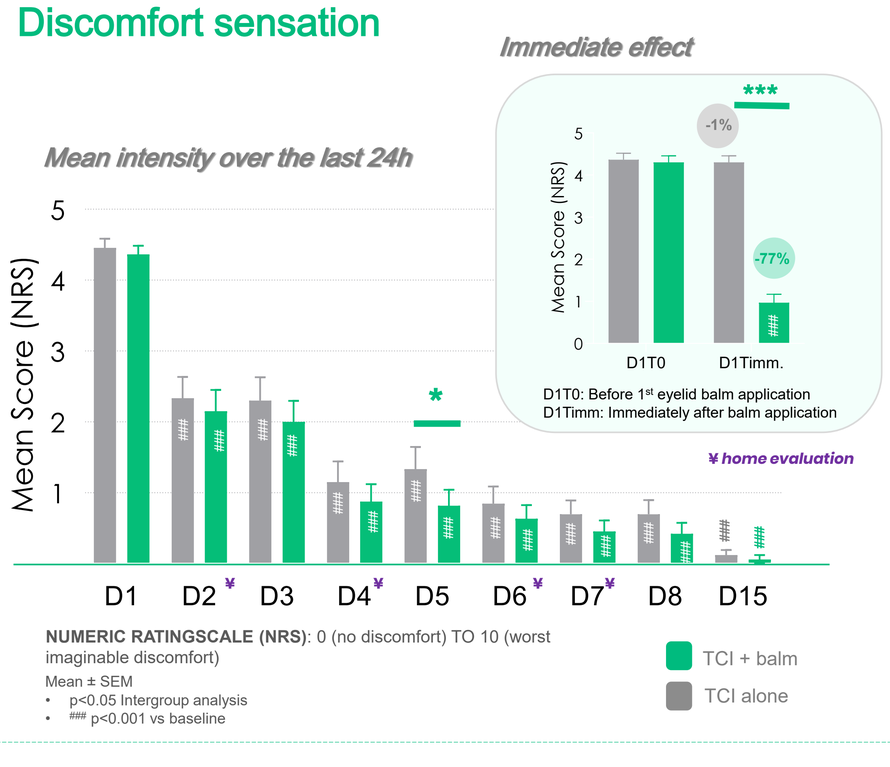
Mean ± SEM
- p<0.05; ** p<0.01 Intergroup analysis
- ### p<0.001 vs baseline

BETTER IMPROVEMENT OF AD SEVERITY WITH TCI + BALM AFTER 2 DAYS



SCORING: from 0 (absent) – 3 (severe) by the investigator; on each eyelid

Discomfort sensation



NUMERIC RATINGSCALE (NRS): 0 (no discomfort) TO 10 (worst imaginable discomfort)

Mean ± SEM
- p<0.05 Intergroup analysis
- ### p<0.001 vs baseline

TCI + balm
TCI alone

Tolerability

Tolerance rated as ‘very good’ by dermatologist after **15 days** of use in combination with TCI

Cosmetic Qualities and acceptability

- **GLOBAL APPRECIATION: 9.8 / 10**
- **EFFECTIVE** IN LIMITING THE OCCURRENCE OF SKIN DISCOMFORT
- **HELP REDUCE** THE RELUCTANCE TO USE THE TOPICAL TREATMENT
- **SUPPORT** THE ADHERENCE OF THE TOPICAL TREATMENT

Evolution of eyelid Atopic Dermatitis

IGA distribution

% SUBJECTS MUCH TO VERY MUCH IMPROVED	TCI ALONE	TCI + BALM
AT D3 (after 2 days)	46%	67%
AT D5 (after 4 days)	67%	79%
AT D8 (after a week)	79%	85%
AT D15 (after 2 weeks)	82%	91%

IGA = Investigator Global Assessment:
5-point scale (0=worse, 1= no change, 2= minimal improved, 3= much improved, 4=very much improved 5=total resolution)

SGA distribution

% SUBJECTS MUCH TO VERY MUCH IMPROVED	TCI ALONE	TCI + BALM
AT D3 (after 2 days)	46%	67%
AT D5 (after 4 days)	67%	79%
AT D8 (after a week)	79%	82%
AT D15 (after 2 weeks)	82%	91%

SGA = Subject Global Assessment:
5-point scale (0=worse, 1= no change, 2= minimal improved, 3= much improved, 4=very much improved 5=total resolution)

Conclusions

- ✓ **Faster relief of pruritus and discomfort** and **greater improvement in AD severity** when the TCI is combined with the eyelid balm (Rhealba oat, *H.g.*).
- ✓ **Very good local tolerance** and high cosmetic acceptability of the eyelid balm on the periocular area.
- ✓ **Improved comfort and adherence:** this supportive care may help patients follow their treatment for eyelid atopic dermatitis.

A dermo-cosmetic add-on to TCI treatment to improve comfort and adherence in eyelid AD

Illustrative pictures



Photo credits: *Pierre Fabre Dermo-Cosmétique*

Female subject, 20 years old / mean case for L-SCORAD, xerosis, erythema
Cross-Polarized lighting

Presented at the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology Annual Congress, 30 September to 3 October 2026, Vienna, Austria