

Table SI. Healthcare aspects in pruritus patients

| | Patients with pruritus | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Total (n=121) n (%) | Acute (n=12) n (%) | Chronic (n=106) n (%) | Duration n.d. (n=3) n (%) |
| Prior consultation with GP | 63 (52.1) | 1 (8.3) | 62 (58.5) | 0 |
| Consultation due to pruritus | 75 (62.0) | 6 (50.0) | 68 (64.2) | 1 (33.3) |
| Pretreatment | 94 (77.7) | 6 (50.0) | 87 (82.1)** | 1 (33.3) |
| OTC emollients | 41 (33.9) | 3 (25.0) | 37 (34.9) | 1 (33.3) |
| OTC tablets | 4 (3.3) | 0 | 4 (3.8) | 0 |
| Prescription topical | 66 (54.5) | 4 (33.3) | 62 (58.5) | 0 |
| Prescription oral | 13 (10.7) | 0 | 13 (12.3) | 0 |
| No pretreatment | 27 (22.3) | 6 (50.0) | 19 (17.9) | 2 (66.7) |
| Pretreatment in diagnosis | | | | |
| Atopic dermatitis (n=30) | 23 (76.7) | 0 | 23 (76.7) | 0 |
| Eczema (n=46) | 21 (45.7) | 1 (2.2) | 20 (43.5) | 0 |
| Psoriasis (n=35) | 15 (42.9) | 0 | 14 (40.0) | 1 (2.9) |
| Venous diseases (n=37) | 7 (18.9) | 2 (5.4) | 5 (13.5) | 0 |
| Neoplasm (n=88) | 13 (14.8) | 0 | 13 (14.8) | 0 |
| Acne, rosacea (n=53) | 10 (18.9) | 1 (1.9) | 9 (17.0) | 0 |
| Infestation (n=50) | 14 (28.0) | 1 (2.0) | 13 (26.0) | 0 |
| Allergy (n=20) | 6 (30.0) | 1 (5.0) | 5 (25.0) | 0 |
| Various (n=47) | 13 (27.7) | 1 (2.1) | 12 (25.5) | 0 |

Multiple diagnoses were possible for 1 patient; ^acomprises e.g. xerotic eczema, seborrhoeic eczema, dyshidrotic eczema, hand eczema, nummular eczema; ^bcomprises chronic venous insufficiency, varicosis, thrombophlebitis, venous ulcers, post-thrombotic ulcers, post-thrombotic syndrome, spider veins, stasis oedema, stasis dermatitis.

**Chronic pruritus is significant vs. acute pruritus ($p=0.01$).

n.d.: not determined; GP: general practitioner; OTC: over the counter.