

Meeting the Challenge of Managing Psoriasis

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Psoriasis is a chronic, life-impacting disease for many patients and there is significant unmet clinical need in the management of patients with moderate to severe psoriasis. Notwithstanding these unmet needs, for more than 20 years there have been few significant developments in the treatment of psoriasis. Today, an entirely new approach to therapy has been made possible as a result of the increased understanding of the pathogenesis of psoriasis.

The initial presentation provided an overview of the immunopathology of psoriasis. The way in which our understanding of the immunologic basis of psoriasis has contributed to our ability to develop targeted biologic therapies was presented. Psoriasis has a significant negative impact on patient's quality of life and psychosocial and physical well-being. The impact on physical functions and mental health was reviewed as well as the lack of correlation between efficacy outcomes and impact on quality of life.

The numerous biologic therapies that arrest psoriasis at different steps was reviewed. The integration of these new biologics into clinical practice was considered.

OBJECTIVES

After participating in this symposium, the participants had an updated knowledge in:

- The role of T cells in psoriasis pathogenesis
- The main strategies for biologic immunotherapy for psoriasis
- The impact of psoriasis on quality of life
- The rationale for the use of new biologic therapies for psoriasis
- The integration of biologics into clinical practice

TARGET AUDIENCE

Clinicians and scientists as well as nurses involved in the management of psoriasis will benefit from the symposium.

ACCREDITATION

This program "Meeting the Challenge of Managing Psoriasis" was submitted for accreditation by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME).

Serono Symposia International Foundation applied to The Royal College of Physicians, London, UK for CME accreditation of the symposium "Meeting the Challenge of Managing Psoriasis" (Belfast, UK – July 6, 2004).

