European Respiratory Society Annual Congress 2012

Abstract Number: 560 Publication Number: P2175

Abstract Group: 5.1. Airway Pharmacology and Treatment Keyword 1: Chronic disease Keyword 2: Rhinitis Keyword 3: Treatments

Title: Erdosteine - A new drug in the treatment of chronic rhinosinusitis

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Body: Introduction. Antiinflammatory macrolide antibiotics proved efficient in chronic rhinosinusitis (CRS). Since this medication is associated with potential side effects and the danger of development of resistent bacteria, alternative drugs are being sought. Objectives. Another drug exerting similar, cytokine-mediated antiinflammatory response is Erdosteine. However, it has not been tested in this diagnosis yet. In a prospective post-authorisation study we therefore assessed the efficacy of Erdosteine in patients with CRS. Methods. 60 patients with CRS were enrolled, with 33 and 27 of them being treated by Erdosteine 2x300 mg without (group I) and with topical steroid (group II), respectively, for 3 months. Outcome measures included Sinonasal Outcome Test (SNOT-22) and nasal endoscopic score (Levine-May). Results. The pre-and posttreatment SNOT-22 score in group I was 36 and 19, in group II 39 and 27, respectively. The nasal endoscopic score in group I was 2.55 and 1.29, in group II 2.02 and 1.30. In both groups the differences showed statistical significance. Conclusion. The results of our pilot study suggest Erdosteine treatment efficacy in CRS. Additional in vitro and clinical studies are required to determine its precise action.