# Characterization of a pruritus challenge model

No registrations found.

**Ethical review** Positive opinion

**Status** Pending

Health condition type -

**Study type** Interventional

## **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON28663

**Source** 

Nationaal Trial Register

**Brief title** 

CHDR1907

**Health condition** 

**Atopic Dermatitis** 

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Maruho Co, Ltd

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: Sponsor

#### Intervention

#### **Outcome measures**

#### **Primary outcome**

Tolerability / safety endpoints

- Monitoring adverse events
- Monitoring HR, BP and temperature
- Local tolerance (Visual Analog Scale (VAS) pruritus)

#### Pharmacodynamic endpoints

The injection sites will be monitored for a period of up to 180 min. Safety assessments and non-invasive efficacy assessments (imaging) will be performed at baseline, 10, 15, 20 and 30 min.

Imaging measurements (Part A + B)

- Perfusion by Laser speckle contrast imaging (LSCI)
- Erythema by Antera 3D camera
- Wheal and flare by Antera 3D camera
- Wheal and flare by clinical evaluation (erythema grading scale)
- Erythema by colorimetry (DSM III)

#### Biochemical measurements

- Biopsies (Part B). Readout measures may comprise, but are not limited to:
- o Immunohistochemistry:
- Eosinophils
- Monocytes/macrophages
- Mast cells
- IgE, IgG
- o NAV 1.1 to 1.9: exploratory

#### Subject reported outcomes

Itch intensity is assessed on a horizontal bar from 0 to 100 representing the visual analogue scale (VAS) in both parts following each provocation every minute up to 15 minutes. After 15 minutes, itch will be assessed with a frequency of 5 minutes up to 30 min after challenge. The burning sensation is evaluated similarly. Pain intensity is assessed on a 100 mm visual analogue scale (VAS) in both parts following each provocation pre-dose, postdose, after 10 and 30 minutes of histamine challenge

The following outcomes are included to evaluate itch sensitization with the different histamine doses and the difference between HV and AD patients.

- Maximum itch / peak itch
- Time to maximum itch
- Time to complete itch subsidence
- AUCitch

#### **Secondary outcome**

N.A.

## **Study description**

#### **Background summary**

In many dermatological diseases, pruritus (or itch will be used interchangeably) is one of the impactful and burdensome symptoms patients face every day. Although pruritus by itself is seen as a benign symptom, pruritus can have adverse effects on the patients' wellbeing and daily life. In addition, chronic itch is often accompanied by several unpleasant sensations such as pain or a burning sensation. The mechanisms that underlie pruritus are not well known and are compounded by the subjective nature of itch. In dermatological conditions, itch is mainly caused by inflammation or skin damage. Changes in barrier function of the skin can lead to itch by endogenous mediators or exogenous allergens that come into contact with the skin.

The primary sensory nerve fibers that innervate the skin are categorized into three groups based on the degree of myelination, diameter, and conduction velocity. The thick myelinated A $\beta$  fibers transmit tactile sensation, whereas the thinly myelinated A $\delta$  and unmyelinated C-fibers are mainly involved in the conduction of thermal and pain/itch sensation. Itch is transmitted predominately by these unmyelinated, slow conducting C-fibers. These fibers extend to the dermo-epidermal junction with free endings penetrating into the epidermis where sensation is detected. The cell bodies for these fibers are in the dorsal root ganglia (DRG), just outside the spinal cord. From here, both sensations involve secondary transmission neurons that ascend via the contralateral spinothalamic tract to the thalamus (Garibyan et al 2013).

Pruritogens interact with receptors or ion channels on the nerve fibers. The receptors that are often involved are G-protein coupled receptors (GPCR). GPCRs detect and respond to a diverse range of ligands or stimuli and are the target of many drugs. GPCRs that are relevant to itch respond to histamine, prostaglandins, neuropeptides, and proteases. The ion channels that appear to be primarily involved are members of the transient receptor potential (TRP) family. As an example, TRPV1 detects capsaicin, the active ingredient in chili peppers. Various drugs with different mechanisms of action are currently in development. These drugs have the potential to lead to targeted therapy of peripheral itch independent of blocking inflammation. For clinical drug development efficient and effective pruritus provoking challenge models in humans are needed. For these purposes a variety of different compounds including cowhage, capsaicin and histamine have been tested. Ample experience has been obtained with histamine also being used as positive control of the skin prick test in allergy testing sued routinely in clinical practice. However, hardly any bioquantitative measurements have been performed to characterize the itch response following histamine injection.

The aim of this study is to characterize the dose-pruritogenic response upon intradermal histamine injection in healthy volunteers and patients with atopic dermatitis. This setup will create a challenge model that temporarily induces skin itch which enables future application as proof-of-pharmacology or drug profiling in drug developmental programs. As histamine is known as low potent pruritogenic agent the study will also enroll atopic dermatitis patients where lesional site will be evaluated to study the difference in pruritus response in patients. With the application oral antihistamine, the reversal of a fixed histamine-dose effect can be investigated in both populations.

#### Study objective

This is a set-up for a challenge pruritus model. We expect to initiate a local, reversible itchresponse

#### Study design

Screening: up to 35 days before dosing, Day 1, Day 3, EOS

#### Intervention

Investigational product: Histamine phosphate

Non-investigational product: Cetirizine 10 mg or placebo

#### **Contacts**

#### **Public**

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#### Scientific

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## **Eligibility criteria**

#### Inclusion criteria

#### All participants

- 1. Body mass index (BMI) between 18 and 30 kg/m2, inclusive, and with a minimum weight of 50 kg;
- 2. Fitzpatrick skin type I-II (Caucasian);
- 3. All subjects must use effective contraception for the duration of the study;
- 4. Able and willing to give written informed consent and to comply with the study restrictions.

#### Healthy volunteers

5. Healthy male subjects, 18 to 45 years of age, inclusive. Healthy status is defined by absence of evidence of any active or chronic disease following a detailed medical and surgical history, a complete physical examination including vital signs, 12-lead ECG, hematology, blood chemistry, blood serology and urinalysis;

#### AD patients

- 6. Male and female subjects with mild to moderate AD (IGA 2 or 3) 18 to 65 years of age, inclusive. The health status is verified by absence of evidence of any clinically significant active or uncontrolled chronic disease other than AD following a detailed medical history and a complete physical examination including vital signs, 12-lead ECG, hematology, blood chemistry, blood serology and urinalysis;
- 7. Diagnosed with AD according to the Hanifin & Rajka diagnostic criteria;
- 8. Suitable target lesions defined as an eczema lesion of at least 1% BSA for each lesions (volar forearms and upper back, total 3 lesions)
- 9. IGA 2 or 3
- 10. VAS itch of ≤30 at screening and prior to first administration of target lesions

#### **Exclusion criteria**

#### All participants

- 1. Any disease associated with immune system impairment, including auto-immune diseases, allergies, HIV and transplantation patients;
- 2. History of pathological scar formation (keloid, hypertrophic scar);
- 3. Excessive sun exposure or a tanning booth within 3 weeks of enrollment
- 4. Participation in an investigational drug or device study within 3 months prior to screening or more than 4 times a year;
- 5. Loss or donation of blood over 500 mL within three months prior to screening. Or the donation of plasma within 14 days prior to screening;
- 6. Current smoker and/or regular user of other nicotine-containing products (e.g., patches);
- 7. History of or current drug or substance abuse considered significant by the PI (or medically qualified designee), including a positive urine drug screen.
- 8. Use of antihistamines within 3 weeks prior to start of the study;
- 9. Subjects who show skin reaction to Skin marker;

#### Healthy volunteers

- 10. Subjects suffering from chronic itch defined as presence of pruritic symptoms lasting more than 6 weeks;
- 11. Have known history of atopy;
- 12. Have any current and / or recurrent pathologically, clinically significant skin condition at the treatment area (i.e. atopic dermatitis);

#### AD patients

13. Requirement of immunosuppressive or immunomodulatory medication within 30 days prior to enrollment or planned to use during the course of the study;

## Study design

## **Design**

Study type: Interventional

Intervention model: Parallel

Allocation: Randomized controlled trial

Masking: Single blinded (masking used)

Control: Placebo

#### Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Pending

Start date (anticipated): 30-12-2019

Enrollment: 16

Type: Anticipated

#### **IPD** sharing statement

Plan to share IPD: No

Plan description

N.A.

## **Ethics review**

Positive opinion

Date: 07-01-2020

Application type: First submission

# **Study registrations**

## Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

ID: 54996

Bron: ToetsingOnline

Titel:

## Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

No registrations found.

# In other registers

Register ID

NTR-new NL8271

CCMO NL71946.056.19
OMON NL-OMON54996

# **Study results**

### **Summary results**

N.A.