

# Ustekinumab more effective than TNF-alpha inhibitors in psoriasis

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(HealthDay)—For patients with psoriasis, ustekinumab is more effective

than tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$  inhibitors, according to a study published in the May issue of the *Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology*.

Bruce E. Strober, M.D., Ph.D., from the University of Connecticut Health Center in Farmington, and colleagues compared therapeutic responses among patients from the Psoriasis Longitudinal Assessment and Registry (PSOLAR) initiating infliximab, adalimumab, or [etanercept](#) versus ustekinumab. At six and 12 months, the authors assessed the proportion of patients achieving a Physician Global Assessment score of clear/minimal (0/1) and percentage of body surface area with psoriasis.

Efficacy data were available for 2,076 new users: 1,041 ustekinumab, 116 infliximab, 662 adalimumab, and 257 etanercept. The researchers found that the likelihood of achieving a Physician Global Assessment score 0/1 was significantly lower for [patients](#) receiving tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$  inhibitors versus ustekinumab (odds ratios: 0.396 for infliximab, 0.686 for adalimumab, and 0.554 for etanercept at six months; odds ratio: 0.449 for infliximab at 12 months). A significantly greater mean decrease in percentage of body surface area with [psoriasis](#) was seen for ustekinumab versus adalimumab and etanercept at six months and for ustekinumab versus infliximab and etanercept at 12 months.

"In PSOLAR, effectiveness of ustekinumab was significantly better versus all three [tumor necrosis](#) factor- $\alpha$  inhibitors studied for the majority of comparisons at six and 12 months," the authors write.

Several authors disclosed financial ties to pharmaceutical companies, including Janssen, which manufactures ustekinumab and funded the study.

**More information:** [Abstract](#)  
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