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Audit assessing Omalizumab treatment for Chronic Spontaneous Urticaria to NICE guidelines

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Background: Chronic spontaneous urticaria (CSU) is an autoimmune skin disease defined by recurrent hives and angioedema over 6 weeks with no identifiable triggers. Omalizumab, a recombinant humanised monoclonal antibody, is approved by NICE as an add on therapy for CSU in patients over 12 years since 2015.

Objectives: To examine how Omalizumab treatment for CSU meets standards set by NICE guidelines TA339.

Method: A retrospective study of 37 patients who commenced their first course of six monthly subcutaneous injections between July 2015-January 2017 at the Regional Immunology and Allergy Unit, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne Hospitals Trust were identified on the department database. 9 patients who have not completed 6 doses were excluded from the treatment part of the analysis.

Results: Of the 37 patients (age range 19-82, average 48, Female/Male: 33:4) 100% have no response to antihistamine and montelukast documented and 87% have a significant objective score >28 completed. Of the 36% who did not respond to treatment at the 4th dose- 20% stopped treatment appropriately, 50% did not stop treatment, 20% were not recorded and 10% stopped from adverse reactions. Of those who continued to finish 6 doses 80% stopped while 20% did not stop.

Conclusion: Pre injection standards and treatment stopped after 6 doses were met well. Non-responders did not stop treatment after the 4th dose due to adjustments made to disease flares, other immunosuppressant medications taken during treatment and extended gaps between doses.

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