❷ A DOUBLE BLIND, RANDOMIZED, CLINICAL TRIAL ON THE CLINICAL EFFICACY OF RETAPAMULIN VERSUS MUPIROCIN IN SKIN INFECTIONS OF CHILDREN – A COMMUNITY BASED RESEARCH

Lorilee Joy Buado and Elizabeth Sanchez
Armed Forces of the Philippines Medical Center (AFPMC), Quezon City, Philippines

BACKGROUND: Mupirocin ointment is widely used as the first line topical antibacterial in the treatment of bacterial skin infections. However, there was an arising concern about the emergence of resistance due to its widespread use. Retapamulin is representing a new class of antibacterial agents for use in humans.

OBJECTIVE: The objective of the study is to determine the clinical efficacy of retapamulin versus mupirocin in the treatment of skin infections of children in a community based setting.

METHODS: A total of 149 school-aged children with skin infections were screened for eligibility. Fifty seven subjects underwent randomization for the two treatment groups. Participants were randomly assigned to retapamulin and mupirocin treatment for 5 days. The primary outcome measures were: post-treatment wound size, Skin Infection Rate Scale (SIRS) scoring. The secondary measures were post-treatment gram stain and skin swab culture.

RESULTS: Retapamulin ointment was as effective as mupirocin in terms of improvement in wound size ($p=0.409$) and post treatment results (gram stain and culture) ($p=0.548$). In terms of the SIRS scoring, subjects treated with Retapamulin had a significantly lower score post treatment compared to the Mupirocin group ($p=0.015$). No adverse drug reactions were noted for both retapamulin and mupirocin.

CONCLUSIONS: The use of Retapamulin in the treatment of skin infections of children is equivalent to Mupirocin based on post treatment assessment of wound size, gram stain and culture. Patients treated with Retapamulin had significantly lower signs of skin infection using SIRS Scoring post-treatment.