

1. MetroLotion™: A new weapon against rosacea

Galderma Canada recently announced the introduction of MetroLotion™, the first metronidazole lotion for the treatment of rosacea. Galderma is the only company to offer a cream, gel, and now lotion formulation to treat rosacea, a chronic, progressive skin disorder affecting approximately 1.5 million Canadians.

In a double-blind, randomized clinical trial, MetroLotion, 0.75%, was shown to be safe and highly efficacious.

How does it apply to your practice? “The results [of the trial] showed that 71% of patients experienced a marked improvement or clearing of rosacea using the new metronidazole lotion compared to 41% for the vehicle group,” said Dr. Ronald Venture, an assistant clinical professor of dermatology at McMaster University.

MetroLotion is odour-free, non-greasy, non-staining, and can be easily applied under makeup, sunscreen, and skin-care products. It is the only topical metronidazole lotion for the treatment of rosacea that has been approved in Canada.

New Topical Formulation for the Treatment of Rosacea. Press Release. Thornhill, Ontario, April 5, 2004.

2. Fosamax® continues to shine

In the longest, randomized clinical trial ever conducted on treatment for osteoporosis, researchers found that post-menopausal women taking Fosamax® (alendronate sodium), 10 mg daily, experienced significant increases in bone mineral density at the hip and spine at 10 years of treatment. Prior studies had already demonstrated Fosamax’s effectiveness in reducing the risk of hip and spine fractures.

How does it apply to your practice? Osteoporosis affects one in four women in Canada. “The current study confirms that [Fosamax] provided effective and well-tolerated long-term treatment of post-menopausal osteoporosis,” said Dr. Louis-Georges Ste-Marie, associate professor of medicine at l’Université de Montréal.

With more than 20 million patient-years of therapy prescribed, Fosamax is already the most prescribed medicine worldwide for the treatment of post-menopausal, male, and glucocorticoid-induced osteoporosis. In Canada, Fosamax is also available in a 70-mg dose taken once weekly, which clinical research has found to be as effective as the 10-mg dose taken once daily.

Fosamax®—The Longest Studied Therapy for Osteoporosis Provided Treatment Benefits at All Skeletal Sites Measured. Press Release. Montreal, Quebec, March 18, 2004.