Systematic review of treatments for atopic eczema

Hoare C, Li Wan Po A, Williams H

Record Status
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Citation

Authors' objectives
The objectives of this scoping review are: - To produce an up-to-date coverage map of randomised controlled trials (RCTs) of treatments of atopic eczema. - To assist in making treatment recommendations by summarising the available RCT evidence using qualitative and quantitative methods.

Authors' conclusions
The evidence base for the prevention and treatment of atopic eczema has many limitations. It is characterised by a profusion of short-term trials of 'me too' products, a lack of common outcome measures which measure things that are important to patients, poor standards of clinical trial reporting, and a lack of data on questions that physicians and people with atopic eczema deem to be important. Little research has evaluated commonly used treatments compared with each other or in combination. This mismatch is probably due to a combination of the questions not being asked coupled with a lack of independent investment in primary atopic eczema research.

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Address for correspondence
NETSCC, Health Technology Assessment, Alpha House, University of Southampton Science Park, Southampton, SO16 7NS UK Tel: +44 23 8059 5586 Email: hta@hta.ac.uk

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