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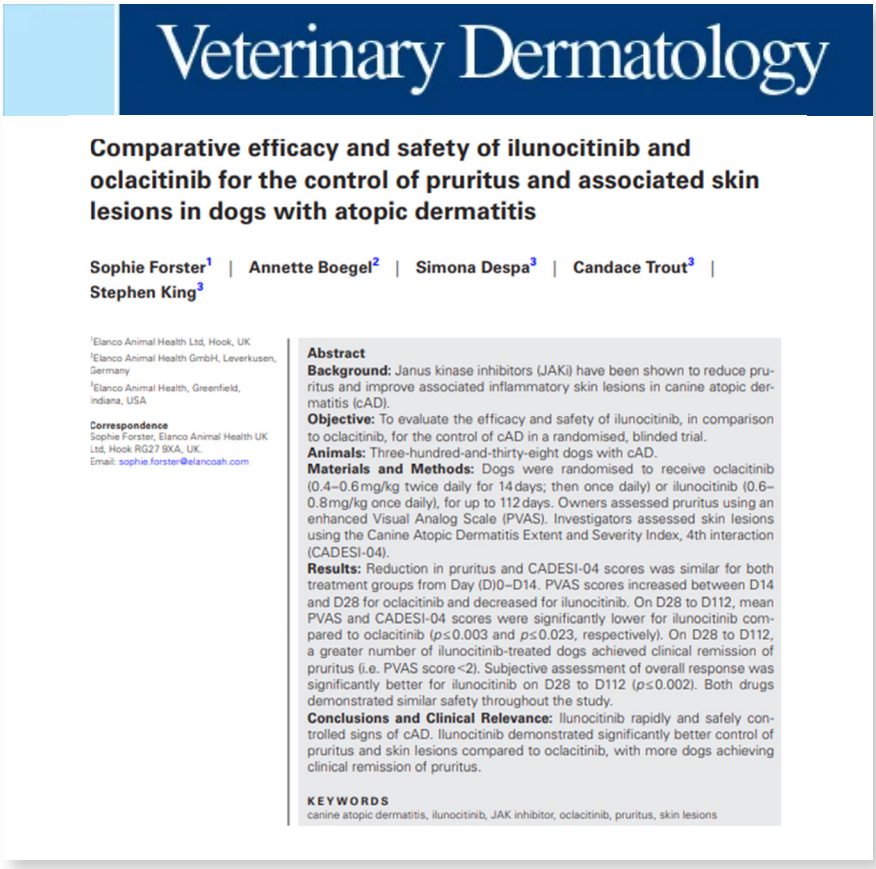

Veterinary Dermatology

Comparative efficacy and safety of ilunocitinib and oclacitinib for the control of pruritus and associated skin lesions in dogs with atopic dermatitis

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Abstract

Background: Janus kinase inhibitors (JAKi) have been shown to reduce pruritus and improve associated inflammatory skin lesions in canine atopic dermatitis (cAD).

Objective: To evaluate the efficacy and safety of ilunocitinib, in comparison to oclacitinib, for the control of cAD in a randomised, blinded trial.

Animals: Three-hundred-and-thirty-eight dogs with cAD.

Materials and Methods: Dogs were randomised to receive oclacitinib (0.4–0.6 mg/kg twice daily for 14 days; then once daily) or ilunocitinib (0.6–0.8 mg/kg once daily), for up to 112 days. Owners assessed pruritus using an enhanced Visual Analog Scale (PVAS). Investigators assessed skin lesions using the Canine Atopic Dermatitis Extent and Severity Index, 4th interaction (CADESI-04).

Results: Reduction in pruritus and CADESI-04 scores was similar for both treatment groups from Day (D)0–D14. PVAS scores increased between D14 and D28 for oclacitinib and decreased for ilunocitinib. On D28 to D112, mean PVAS and CADESI-04 scores were significantly lower for ilunocitinib compared to oclacitinib ($p \leq 0.003$ and $p \leq 0.023$, respectively). On D28 to D112, a greater number of ilunocitinib-treated dogs achieved clinical remission of pruritus (i.e. PVAS score<2). Subjective assessment of overall response was significantly better for ilunocitinib on D28 to D112 ($p \leq 0.002$). Both drugs demonstrated similar safety throughout the study.

Conclusions and Clinical Relevance: Ilunocitinib rapidly and safely controlled signs of cAD. Ilunocitinib demonstrated significantly better control of pruritus and skin lesions compared to oclacitinib, with more dogs achieving clinical remission of pruritus.

KEYWORDS
canine atopic dermatitis, ilunocitinib, JAK inhibitor, oclacitinib, pruritus, skin lesions

1. Forster S, Boegel A, Despa S, Trout C, King S. Comparative efficacy and safety of ilunocitinib and oclacitinib for the control of pruritus and associated skin lesions in dogs with atopic dermatitis. Vet Dermatol. 2025;00:1–10. https://doi.org/10.1111/vde.13319

INDICATIONS
Zenrelia is indicated for control of pruritus associated with allergic dermatitis and control of atopic dermatitis in dogs at least 12 months of age.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION
Read the entire package insert before using this drug, including the Boxed Warning.
For Full prescribing information call 1 888 545 5973 **or visit** www.elancolabels.com/us/zenrelia.

WARNING: VACCINE-INDUCED DISEASE AND INADEQUATE IMMUNE RESPONSE TO VACCINES. Based on results of the vaccine response study, dogs receiving Zenrelia are at risk of fatal vaccine-induced disease from modified live virus vaccines and inadequate immune response to any vaccine. Discontinue Zenrelia for at least 28 days to 3 months prior to vaccination and withhold Zenrelia for at least 28 days after vaccination. Dogs should be up to date on vaccinations prior to starting Zenrelia. Do not use in dogs less than 12 months old or dogs with a serious infection. Monitor dogs for infections because Zenrelia may increase susceptibility to opportunistic infections. Neoplastic conditions (benign and malignant) were observed during clinical studies. Consider the risks and benefits of treatment in dogs with a history of recurrence of these conditions. The most common adverse reactions were vomiting, diarrhea and lethargy. Zenrelia has not been evaluated in breeding, pregnant, or lactating dogs and concurrent use with glucocorticoids, cyclosporine, or other systemic immunosuppressive agents has not been tested. For full prescribing information see package insert.

Zenrelia™
(ilunocitinib tablets)