Dexamethasone for allergic conjunctivitis

top line results released

A prospective, multicenter, double-masked study evaluating sustained release dexamethasone for the treatment of allergic conjunctivitis found subjects presented "statistically significant lower ocular itching and conjunctival redness scores than the placebo group" at all times points in the study, developer Ocular Therapeutics (Bedford, Mass.) said in a news release.

OTX-DP met one of the two criteria for treatment success (achieving a mean difference of more than 0.5 units on a 5-points scale at day 14 for both ocular itching and conjunctival redness). The study did not find a 1.0 unit mean difference at the majority of time points in either ocular itching or conjunctival redness.

OTX-DP is placed in the canaliculus and designed to deliver dexamethasone, a steroid, to the ocular surface for about 4 weeks. If approved, OTX-DP will be the first sustained release corticosteroid punctal plug for allergic conjunctivitis. The product is also under evaluation for the treatment of postop inflammation and pain.

In other news, the company's OTX-TP (sustained release travoprost) has begun enrollment for a phase 2b study for the reduction of elevated intraocular pressure in patients with open-angle glaucoma and ocular hypertension.