

Effects and tolerability of flutamide in patients with female pattern hair loss

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Flutamide has been rarely used for the treatment of female pattern hair loss (FPHL) in the short term and has never been evaluated in long term studies with sufficiently large numbers of women. Here, we evaluate long-term effects, safety and tolerability of flutamide in women with FPHL. A prospective cohort study was conducted in our tertiary care university hospital. The cohort included 101 women diagnosed with FPHL from January 1991 to January 2006 who received yearly reducing doses (250, 125 and 62.5 mg/die) of flutamide for a period of 4 years. The cohort included 33 patients treated with flutamide alone and 68 treated with flutamide combined with oral contraceptive. Clinical and endocrine evaluations were assessed half-yearly and yearly, respectively, in the first three years of study, and yearly in the following year. Liver function evaluations were quarterly. Both the groups of patients under flutamide therapy showed a marked decrease in alopecia scores after 12 months, compared with basal values. The maximum drug effect was after 2 years, and was maintained during the following two years of treatment. Androgens were strongly suppressed during treatment. During the first year of treatment 4% of patients abandoned the study for hepatic disorders related with the drug. During the following years with the lower treatment regimen no patient abandoned the study for hepatic alterations. Flutamide is a satisfactory therapeutic regimen of FPHL in the long run. Moreover, the use of very low flutamide doses (62.5 mg/day) is associated with complete hepatic tolerability and high compliance.

Biography

Roberto Paradisi has completed his M.D. at the age of 25yrs. with full marks from School of Medicine, University of Bologna, Italy, and postdoctoral studies for gynecologist at 29yrs. University of Bari, for endocrinologist at 32yrs. University of Modena and for pathologist of human reproduction at 35yrs University of Genova. He is Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Bologna. He has published more than 300 Publications in the whole, 104 of which in peer reviewed International Journals, (Impact Factor, Global score: IF = 357,166). He is present in the Editorial Board and is Referee of various reputed international scientific journals.

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