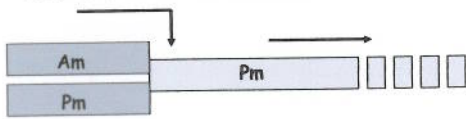


Use of calcineurin inhibitors: Tacrolimus/Pimecrolimus



Maintenance therapy Proactive vs reactive treatment

Advantages of the calcineurin inhibitors

- Do not cause skin atrophy
- Markedly anti-pruritic
- No tachyphylaxis
- Suppresses staph toxin induced PBMC proliferation (useful in steroid resistant eczema)
- Suppresses FcεRI on LC
- Decreases expression of IDECS and restores normal LC activity

Calcineurin inhibitors and efficacy

- 2 systematic reviews of Tacrolimus showing efficacy
- 31 Trials with Pimecrolimus (mostly vehicle controlled)

Williams HC; Clin Exp Dermatol 2010 Apr;35(3):223-7
Boguniewicz J drugs dermatol 2010 May;9(5):488-98

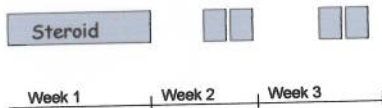
Treatment failures- lessons from our patients?



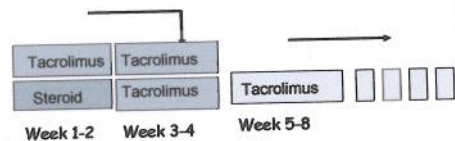
- Stinging, burning on application
- "Not as effective as TCS"
- Bacterial/viral infections may limit use

WEEKEND THERAPY WITH TCI's

Once control achieved with TCS, apply Protopic or Elidel twice weekly to "usual" eczema sites, even if clear



Use of calcineurin inhibitors: Tacrolimus/Pimecrolimus



? Duration of therapy

Sequential application of topical tacrolimus and TCS in paediatric AD.
Kubota J Am Acad Dermatol 2009 Feb 60(2):212-7