Why does this matter?
Chronic spontaneous urticaria (CSU) can have a profound impact on the quality of life and daily activities of affected patients. It is estimated that over 2.4 million people in the United States suffer from this condition.1, 2 In addition to physical symptoms, CSU can affect patients emotionally, socially and financially, resulting in decreased quality of life and decreased productivity.3

What did the study look at?
Ligelizumab was compared against omalizumab and placebo in a Phase 3 trial to determine whether it could provide a more effective treatment for chronic spontaneous urticaria compared to other treatments available. Ligelizumab is a monoclonal antibody against IgE, which is involved in the inflammatory response to urticaria.4 This study also assessed the long-term safety of the drug and its impact on patient-reported outcomes.

What did this study find?
Looking at all treatment groups combined, a UAS7 score of 0 (complete urticaria control and wheal and itch control) was strongly associated with low scores of patient-reported outcomes, indicating minimal impact on quality of life. These outcomes were seen in 9% of patients on placebo, 18% of patients on omalizumab, and 24% of patients on ligelizumab. Patients on ligelizumab also had significantly lower mean scores on the Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI) compared to those on placebo and omalizumab. In addition, patients who achieved control of urticaria also reported significant improvements in sleep, work and daily activities.5, 6

Who sponsored this study?
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Further information
More information can be found here: https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT02477332

References