**Supplementary Table 1. Literature search strategy**

**CENTRAL (Cochrane Library) search strategy**

#1 pityriasis and (rosea or Gibert or Vidal or circinata or marginata or maculata)

#2 MeSH descriptor: [Pityriasis Rosea] This term only

#3 #1 or #2

**MEDLINE (Ovid) search strategy**

1. randomized controlled trial. pt.

2. controlled clinical trial.pt.

3. randomized.ab.

4. placebo.ab.

5. clinical trials as topic.sh.

6. randomly.ab.

7. trial.ti.

8. 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7

9. exp animals/ not humans.sh.

10. 8 not 9

11. Pityriasis Rosea/

12. pityriasis rosea.mp.

13. (pityriasis and Gibert).mp.

14. (pityriasis and Vidal).mp.

15. pityriasis circinata et marginata.mp.

16. pityriasis maculata et circinata.mp.

17. (pityriasis and circinata).mp.

18. (pityriasis and marginata).mp.

19. (pityriasis and maculata).mp.

20. or/11-19

21. 10 and 20

**Embase (Ovid) search strategy**

1. pityriasis rosea/

2. pityriasis rosea.mp.

3. (pityriasis and Gibert).mp.

4. (pityriasis and Vidal).mp.

5. pityriasis circinata et marginata.mp.

6. pityriasis maculata et circinata.mp.

7. (pityriasis and circinata).mp.

8. (pityriasis and marginata).mp.

9. (pityriasis and maculata).mp.

10. or/1-9

11. crossover procedure.sh.

12. double-blind procedure.sh.

13. single-blind procedure.sh.

14. (crossover or cross-over).tw.

15. placebo.tw.

16. (double and blind).tw.

17. allocate.tw.

18. trial.ti.

19. randomized controlled trial.sh.

20. random.tw.

21. or/11-20

22. exp animal/ or exp invertebrate/ or animal experiment/ or animal model/ or animal tissue/ or animal cell/ or nonhuman/

23. human/ or normal human/

24. 22 and 23

25. 22 not 24

26. 21 not 25

27. 10 and 26

**Search strategy for trials registers**

Pityriasis rosea

Pityriasis Vidal

Pityriasis Gibert

Pityriasis circinata

Pityriasis marginata

**Search strategy for adverse effects (PubMed)**

(Drug hypersensitivity [mh] OR Drug toxicity [mh] OR Product surveillance, postmarketing [mh] OR safety [mh] OR adverse effects

[Subheading] OR chemically induced [Subheading] OR Adverse [tw] OR side effect\* [tw] OR toxicity [tw] OR chemically-induced [tw] OR

safety [tw]) AND (Pityriasis rosea [mh] OR Pityriasis rosea [tw] OR Pityriasis marginata [tw])

**Supplementary Table 2**. Certainty assessment.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | | | **Certainty** |
| **№ of studies** | **Study design** | **Risk of bias** | **Inconsistency** | **Indirectness** | **Imprecision** | **Publication bias** |
| **Itch resolution** | | | | | | | |
| 9 | randomized trials | low | not serious | Seriousa | seriousb | Not serious | ⨁⨁◯◯◯  Low |
| **Improvement of the skin eruption** | | | | | | | |
| 12 | randomized trials | low | not serious | Seriousa | seriousb | Not serious | ⨁⨁◯◯◯ Low |

a. Heterogeneous definition of the outcome across the included RCTs.

b. Wide confidence intervals crossing unity or failure to reach the optimal information size.

**Supplementary Table 3**. Risk of Bias Assessment.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
|  | **Randomization process** | **Deviations from intended interventions** | **Missing outcome data** | **Measurement of the outcome** | **Selection of the reported result** | |
| Lazaro-Medina 1996 | L | L | L | L | L | |
| Villarama 2002 | L | L | L | L | L | |
| Akhyani 2003 | L | L | L | L | L | |
| Amer 2006 | L | L | L | L | L | |
| Rassai 2011 | L | L | L | L | L | |
| Ahmed 2014 | L | L | L | L | L | |
| Ganguly 2014 | L | L | L | L | L | |
| Pandhi 2014 | L | L | L | L | L | |
| Das 2015 | L | L | L | L | L | |
| Singh 2016 | L | L | L | L | L | |
| Sonthalia 2018 | L | L | L | L | L | |
| L, low; H, high; | | | | | | |

**Supplementary Table 4**. Adverse events (AE) reported in the included trials. Adverse events were not serious and did not require discontinuation of the drug.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Study** | **Treatment 1** | **Treatment 2** |
| Lazaro-Medina 1996 | None | None |
| Villarama, 2002 | Gastrointestinal AE | Gastrointestinal AE |
| Akhyani, 2003 | Not evaluated | Not evaluated |
| Amer 2006 | Stomach ache in 2 patients, Diarrhoea in 2 patients | No AE |
| Ehsani, 2010 | Not evaluated | Not evaluated |
| Rassai, 2011 | Not evaluated | Not evaluated |
| Ahmed, 2014 | Not evaluated | Not evaluated |
| Ganguly, 2014 | Not evaluated | Not evaluated |
| Pandhi, 2014 | Stomach ache in 3 patients | No AE |
| Das, 2015 | Headache in 3 patients, increased sleep in 2, nausea and vomiting in 2, dysgeusia in 1 | Increased sleep in 1 patient |
| Singh, 2016 | No AE | Abdominal pain and diarrhea in 1 patient |
| Sonthalia, 2018 | Mild gastric hyperacidity in 2 patients; transient anxiety and  palpitations in one patient | Belching in one patient; stye in one patient |