CONCLUSIONS

These findings indicate that the TuiTek® PSP can positively address disease- and treatment-related barriers amongst caregivers regarding optimal adherence of their children to r-hGH treatment.

INTRODUCTION

- Poor adherence to recombinant human growth hormone (r-hGH) treatment presents a significant barrier to achieving optimal growth outcomes. It is important to identify and address the treatment-related needs of children prescribed r-hGH, and develop new approaches to improve care.

OBJECTIVE

To measure the impact of the TuiTek® PSP on caregivers’ knowledge, beliefs, and perceptions of growth hormone deficiency (GHD) and adherence to its treatment.

METHODS

A pilot study

- A TuiTek® PSP was conducted among 31 caregivers of children with GHD and receiving r-hGH treatment via the easylino® auto-injector device in Taiwan (Figure 1).

REFERENCES

1. Chung Shan Medical University Hospital, Taichung City 402, Taiwan (R.O.C.); 2 Merck Ltd., Taiwan, Taipei City 114, Taiwan (R.O.C.), an affiliate of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany; 3 School of Cancer and Pharmaceutical Sciences, King’s College London, London, UK

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RESULTS

Table 1. Changes in Scores from Baseline to Follow-Up

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Follow-up</th>
<th>Mean Difference</th>
<th>Percentage Change (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disease and Treatment Coherence</td>
<td>11 (35)</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>0 (0)</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emotional Burden</td>
<td>27 (87)</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>17 (55)</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treatment-Related Anxiety</td>
<td>25 (81)</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>12 (39)</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Administration</td>
<td>28 (90)</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>12 (39)</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*p<0.05

At follow-up, all caregivers classified as ‘high risk’ within the disease and treatment coherence item at baseline had moved into the ‘low risk’ category.

Statistically significant changes in questionnaire scores between baseline and follow-up for disease and treatment understanding, emotional burden, self-administration, and treatment-related anxiety (all p<0.05) were also observed (Table 1).

Between baseline and 3-month follow-up, the percentage of caregivers scoring as ‘high risk’ for emotional burden reduced by 37%, there was also a positive change in confidence of self-administration by 57% and the percentage of caregivers scoring as ‘high risk’ for treatment-related anxiety was reduced by 52% (Table 1; Figure 3).

Figure 1. Personalized Nurse Coaching Support Workflow

The TuiTek® PSP has the potential to positively impact on adherence levels and patient clinical outcomes.

Figure 2. Personalization Questions and Scoring

Figure 3. Improved Caregiver Perceptions Across All Behavioral Factors

INVESTIGATING THE IMPACT OF THE TUI TEK® PATIENT SUPPORT PROGRAM, DESIGNED TO SUPPORT CAREGIVERS OF CHILDREN PRESCRIBED RECOMBINANT HUMAN GROWTH HORMONE TREATMENT FOR GROWTH HORMONE DEFICIENCY IN TAIWAN: A PILOT STUDY

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Alternative Names: GHDF, growth hormone deficiency; PSP, patient support program; r-hGH, recombinant human growth hormone; TuiTek®, a combination of behavioral science (Tuition) and technological innovation (Tec).

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