



## **A Novel Topical Product, Flavokine, for the Relief of Molluscum Contagiosum Lesions in Children**

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Molluscum contagiosum (MC) is a superficial viral infection of skin and mucous membranes affecting about 1 in 6 children with outbreaks lasting from 0.5-5 years. Autoinnoculation may result in widespread lesion clusters. Patients with atopic dermatitis<sup>1</sup> and immunocompromised patients are more susceptible to MC infection. Current destructive methods for treatment, such as curettage, cautery and cryotherapy, are not tolerated well by children<sup>2</sup>. Most topical products (acids, retinoids, blistering agents) act by causing local irritation in hopes of stimulating an immune response. To date, no acceptable topical product has existed for the improvement of MC lesions. Flavokine [Dalos BioPharma] is a novel botanical substance containing over 270 flavonoids and other substances. Flavokine has been shown to enhance wound healing as well as have strong anti-inflammatory, antiviral, and antibacterial abilities. Flavokine was tested by the NIAID and shown to be active against the pox family of viruses.

Ten patients, ages 3-13 years, were treated for up to 12 weeks with Flavokine in a non-controlled pilot study. Patients/parents were instructed to rub the liquid onto each lesion twice daily. Subjects returned at weeks 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and at 4 weeks post-treatment for lesion counts and treatment area evaluation. All patients experienced a Complete or Partial Response. In four patients, the lesions cleared completely. The six remaining patients were equally divided between lesions clearing greater than or less than 50% as compared to baseline. No unusual adverse events were reported or observed. Flavokine appears to represent an active, non-blistering, well-tolerated topical product for relief of MC lesions.

1. Dohil MA, Lin P, Lee J, Lucky AW, Paller AS, Eichenfield LF. The epidemiology of molluscum contagiosum in children. *J Am Acad Dermatol* 2006;54(1):47-54.
2. Scheinfeld N. Treatment of molluscum contagiosum. *Dermatol Online J* 2007;13(3):15.

Support was provided by Dalos BioPharma.

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