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Intra-articular injections of hylan G-F 20 in patients with symptomatic hip osteoarthritis: an open-label, multicentre, pilot study.

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OBJECTIVE: To obtain prospective data on feasibility and safety of intra-articular injections of hylan G-F20 in patients with symptomatic hip osteoarthritis (OA).

METHODS: Fifty-seven patients with primary hip OA, Kellgren-Lawrence grade II-III, aged ≥ 40 and walking pain 50-90 mm on a visual analogue scale (VAS) were enrolled in an open-label, multicentre pilot trial. Hylan G-F20 (2 ml) was injected intra-articularly (IA) in the hip under fluoroscopy at D0, and follow-up visits were performed at D7-30-60-90. The possibility of a second injection at D30-60 or 90 was considered if the reported pain level was equivalent to baseline. Adverse events, walking pain (VAS), WOMAC index, patient and physician's global assessment were recorded at each visit.

RESULTS: Twenty-five patients 1 injection and 32 received 2 injections. Transient hip pain was reported following 10.1% of injections, but no patient withdrew from the study because of this. Two mild synovial fluid aseptic effusions occurred after the first injection. No systemic device-related adverse event was reported. Walking pain decreased from 69.3 mm at entry to 39.5 mm at the end point ($p < 0.0001$). All other outcome measures decreased significantly.

CONCLUSION: Viscosupplementation with hylan G-F20 is feasible, easy to perform and well-tolerated in hip OA. A double-blind, controlled study should be performed to confirm data on its efficacy.

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