

I'd like to discuss two different adolescent patients where we made the journey into systemic therapy. So one of them is a very, very severe 16-year-old atopic dermatitis, has a long history of eczema, since, I think, a year and a half of age, had multiple hospitalizations, both as a younger child and as an adolescent, for infectious complications, eczema herpeticum. Also had pretty severe asthma, which required emergency room visits, as well as at least one hospitalization. Also had a history of severe conjunctivitis-- not from medicine, but [INAUDIBLE] vernal conjunctivitis as a concurrent allergy.

And then I hadn't really appreciated it in one of my visits, but I had missed assessing how he was doing in general from a holistic standpoint. And so when I was discussing with them, and he was in a pretty severe flare over a few months, that he had been hospitalized six months ago for depression.

So here's someone with really horrendous atopic dermatitis, 50%-60% body surface area, lots of chronic disease, not erythrodermic, but definitely incredibly impacted by his disease with large body surface area, sleep disturbance, and this set of secondary comorbidities, including depression, and happened to have severe asthma, and conjunctivitis, which made it interesting because dupilumab-- you have to be concerned about development of conjunctivitis with dupilumab.

And in that case, it was a pretty easy discussion to say, boy, this looks like your life's so impacted by this disease. This drug's just approved. Shall we go with it? And it took an extra visit to make sure that the patient was gung ho, to make sure the family was comfortable understanding the situation.

And boy, it was incredible, and it's still incredible. Because I just saw this patient back for essentially, his one year anniversary. But at six weeks into it, I go to enter the room for his follow up visit, and he has a smile from here to here. He's like, he is so happy. And that's early on in the course of the disease. He got much, much better over time. He had the sense immediately the impact on the pruritus, the impact on his life. It actually made his asthma better as well. And now we just had his year anniversary, and he is so thrilled with how this drug has changed his life.