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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Support - None.
Review Stage at time of this submission - None.
Conflicts of interest - None declared.
INPLASY registration number: INPLASY202540076
Amendments - This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 22 April 2025 and was last updated on 22 April 2025.

INTRODUCTION

Review question / Objective What is the relative effect of the various administrative routes (and dosages) of minoxidil, dutasteride and finasteride on male pattern baldness?

Rationale Various prospective studies have investigated the effect of minoxidil, finasteride and dutasteride on androgenetic alopecia (AGA), the most common form of hair loss. Furthermore, the effects of these therapeutic agents have been studied with various routes of administration, including sublingual and mesotherapy. The proposed study aims to determine the agents' relative effects as per various dosages and routes of administration.

Condition being studied Male pattern baldness.

METHODS

Search strategy The peer-reviewed literature will be electronically searched through various academic databases including PubMed.

Participant or population Male individuals diagnosed with androgenetic alopecia.

Intervention Any administrative route and dosage of minoxidil, finasteride and dutasteride.

Comparator Placebo or vehicle.

Study designs to be included Prospective studies including randomized controlled trials.

Eligibility criteria Studies whose data will be used for analyses are studies that are 1) published in English, 2) prospective in design, and 3) had an arm investigating monotherapy with minoxidil,

dutasteride, or finasteride in males with androgenetic alopecia.

Information sources Information sources will include PubMed.

Main outcome(s) Outcome measures will include change in total hair density at 24 weeks (or 6 months).

Additional outcome(s) The extracted data will determine which additional outcomes the proposed study will analyze.

Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis The quality of evidence for each eligible study will be assessed using the Cochrane Collaboration's risk of bias (RoB) tool.

Strategy of data synthesis The strategy for analyses will be consolidated after obtaining data.

Subgroup analysis None.

Sensitivity analysis The extracted data will determine how sensitivity analyses will be conducted.

Language restriction English.

Country(ies) involved Canada.

Keywords androgenetic alopecia; hair density; minoxidil; finasteride.

Contributions of each author

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