



Towards a simplified scabies treatment

Clinical development of a new single-dose oral treatment that has the potential to enhance patient compliance, alleviate suffering, and contribute to reducing the prevalence and transmission of scabies.



GLOBAL IMPAC



400+

MILLION
people are affected
each year



200+

MILLION cases at any one time



5.3

MILLION
years of healthy lives
lost due to disease³

The global burden of scabies

Scabies is one of the most common contageous skin conditions, affecting people of all ages and backgrounds, worldwide.

It is especially common in tropical regions and spreads most easily where people live close together or in vulnerable settings. But sporadic outbreaks are also frequently reported in institutional healthcare environments such as long-term care facilities and hospitals.

Scabies is a skin condition caused by tiny mites, often causing severe itching, impacting sleep and mental wellbeing. Scabies can also make the skin more vulnerable to bacterial infections, which in turn can lead to serious health conditions such as kidney disease and rheumatic heart disease.

Scabies is a potent source of stigma and reduces quality of life. It can lead to time away from work or school and create financial burden through the cost of accessing treatments and health care.

Even with greater awareness of how to diagnose and treat scabies, many regions are seeing rising numbers of cases in the community.





In 2023, the annual incidence of scabies was estimated at over 359 million cases in low- and middle-income countries, and more than 12 million in high-income countries.²

Most existing treatments are not practical for treating scabies

MDGH, in partnership with Atticus Medical, is advancing the development of moxidectin as a single-dose oral treatment designed to simplify the management of scabies and improve health outcomes.

Current treatments are efficient but often cumbersome. Topical treatments require thorough head to toe application to all family members at the same time and for at least 8 hours. Both topical and oral treatment often require repeated dosing within a week or two. These practical challenges, combined with limited privacy, water access, and medicine availability in some communities, make it difficult to achieve treatment effectiveness.

MDGH is currently exploring the potential for moxidectin* as a single-dose oral treatment for individuals and communities affected by scabies.



PROGRESSING MOXIDECTIN CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT (FOR SCARIES)

Phase 2a (MDGH-MOX-2001) NCT03905265

A small international study conducted in Australia, Austria, and France involving 22 adults found that moxidectin effectively kills scabies mites and is well-tolerated.

Phase 2b (MDGH-MOX-2002) NCT05875441

A larger study involving 200 adults across the United States, Honduras, El Salvador, and the Dominican Republic tested multiple doses. The study has now been completed, with data currently being analysed.

Next steps

Phase 3 trials are in development, with clinical sites and community support being actively sought to advance this new treatment option for adults and children.



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Pediatric formulation development has commenced to support access to a broad patient population.



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Dr Victoria Ryg-Cornejo, Project Leader for the scabies program, visited clinical trial sites in Honduras, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and the United States to gain a first-hand look at the progress for the Phase 2b study. Victoria is shown here meeting with one of the study Investigators, Dr Elizabeth Barranco and her team at CAIMED Center, Ponce Research Institute, Puerto Rico.

Moxidectin aims to:



OFFER A ONE-TIME TREATMENT



SIMPLIFYING ADMINISTRATION



IMPROVING COMPLIANCE



Medicines Development for Global Health (MDGH) is a not-for-profit pharmaceutical company, developing medicines to ease the burden of neglected diseases on many of the world's most disadvantaged people and communities.

Together, we can improve lives in affected communities, and build a fairer, healthier, and more prosperous world.

Join us in making innovative medicines accessible to all!

Speak with our team about partnership opportunities today.

Dr Victoria Ryg-Cornejo Project Leader Scabies vrygcornejo@mdgh.com

Dr Emily McCaffrey Head of Philanthropy emccaffrey@mdgh.com

www.medicinesdevelopment.com 1/18 Kavanagh St, Southbank VIC 3006 @medicines-development

- 1. World Health Organization, Weekly Epidemiological Record, 13 September 2024, vol. 99.
- 2. Global Burden of Disease Collaborative Network. Global Burden of Disease Study 2023 (GBD 2023). Seattle, United States: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), 2025
- 3. Jiajia Li, Zehu Liu , Xiujiao Xia. The disability-adjusted life years (DALYs), prevalence and incidence of scabies, 1990-2021: A systematic analysis from the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021. PLoS Negl Trop Dis. 2024 Dec 26;18(12):e0012775. doi: 10.1371/journal.pntd.0012775. eCollection 2024 Dec.
- * Disclaimer: Moxidectin is in development and not approved for treatment in Scabies in any country or region

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