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Efficacy and safety of lebrikizumab (an anti-IL-13 monoclonal antibody) in adults with moderate-to-severe atopic dermatitis inadequately controlled by topical corticosteroids: A randomized, placebo-controlled phase II trial (TREBLE)

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79 **Capsule Summary**

- 80 • IL-13 is overexpressed in patients with atopic dermatitis (AD).
81 • Lebrikizumab, an anti-IL-13 monoclonal antibody, was superior to placebo in patients with
82 AD when administered subcutaneously every 4 weeks along with topical corticosteroids.
83 • IL-13 inhibition with lebrikizumab could reduce the need for oral immunosuppressive
84 therapy for patients with AD.
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86 **Abstract**

87 **Background:** Interleukin (IL)-13 plays a key role in type 2 inflammation and is an emerging
88 pathogenic mediator in atopic dermatitis.

89 **Objective:** We investigated the efficacy and safety of lebrikizumab, an anti-IL-13 monoclonal
90 antibody, as add-on to topical corticosteroid (TCS).

91 **Methods:** A randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind, phase II study. Adults with
92 moderate-to-severe AD were required to use twice-daily TCS, and randomized (1:1:1:1) to
93 lebrikizumab 125 mg single dose (SD), 250 mg SD, 125 mg once every 4 weeks (Q4W), or
94 placebo Q4W for 12 weeks, after 2-week TCS run-in. Primary endpoint was percentage of
95 patients achieving Eczema Area and Severity Index (EASI)-50 at Week 12.

96 **Results:** 209 patients received study drug. At Week 12, significantly more patients achieved
97 EASI-50 with lebrikizumab 125 mg Q4W (82.4%; $p=0.026$) versus placebo (62.3%); patients
98 receiving lebrikizumab SD showed no statistically significant improvements in EASI-50 versus
99 placebo. Adverse events were similar between groups (66.7% all lebrikizumab vs 66.0%
100 placebo), mostly mild or moderate.

101 **Limitations:** Protocol-mandated twice-daily TCS limits understanding of lebrikizumab efficacy
102 as monotherapy. Short study duration did not allow long-term efficacy or safety evaluation.

103 **Conclusions:** Lebrikizumab 125 mg Q4W led to significant improvement in patients with
104 moderate-to-severe AD, when added to TCS, and was well tolerated.

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108

109 **Keywords:** atopic dermatitis; lebrikizumab; anti-IL-13; topical corticosteroids; EASI; pruritus

110

111 Introduction

112 Atopic dermatitis (AD) is a chronic skin disorder characterized by intensely pruritic,
113 eczematous lesions accompanied by a disrupted skin barrier and type 2 inflammation.¹ AD is
114 one of the most common dermatologic diagnoses worldwide and its burden is
115 multidimensional, impacting sleep, psychosocial activities and health-related quality of life
116 (HRQoL).²⁻⁴ In moderate-to-severe AD, potent topical corticosteroids (TCS), calcineurin
117 inhibitors, phototherapy, and conventional immunosuppressive medications (e.g. cyclosporine)
118 are often required. However, efficacy of topical therapies can be limited, and their frequent
119 use is cumbersome and carries the risk of side effects.⁵ Traditional systemic treatments used
120 for moderate-to-severe disease also carry significant risks.⁶

121 Interleukin (IL)-13 plays a central role in type 2 inflammation, and its gene polymorphisms are
122 associated with increased risk of AD.⁷ There is increased expression of IL-13 mRNA in skin
123 biopsy specimens from patients with AD, relative to healthy controls, and levels of IL-13
124 mRNA expression correlate with AD disease severity.^{8,9} Furthermore, overexpression of IL-13
125 has been shown to reduce epithelial integrity by down-regulation of key skin barrier
126 components.^{10,11} Treatment of AD with systemic agents such as cyclosporine can decrease
127 skin IL-13 levels,¹² and recent trials have reported improved clinical responses in patients with
128 moderate-to-severe AD treated with dupilumab, an anti-IL-4R α monoclonal antibody inhibiting
129 IL-13/IL-4 signaling.^{13,14} Together, these data support IL-13 as a key mediator in AD.

130 In theory, targeting the most central pathologic mediators in AD may maximize efficacy and
131 limit toxicity. Lebrikizumab is a monoclonal antibody that binds specifically to soluble IL-13
132 with high affinity, preventing IL-13R α 1/IL-4R α heterodimerization and subsequent
133 signaling.^{15,16} Lebrikizumab has previously been investigated for the treatment of asthma, and
134 data have accumulated from 11 randomized clinical trials involving 4,411 individuals.^{15,17-20}
135 Following promising phase IIb data in uncontrolled asthma, only one of the two phase III
136 studies in severe adult asthma, showed a statistically significant reduction in asthma
137 exacerbations in the primary analysis population. Nonetheless, based on IL-13's involvement

138 in multiple pathways important to AD pathogenesis, lebrizumab may represent a novel
139 targeted therapy in AD.

140 In this proof-of-concept phase II study, we investigated the efficacy and safety of lebrizumab,
141 compared to placebo, as add-on to TCS in adults with moderate-to-severe AD.

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142 **Methods**

143 Study design

144 TREBLE was a randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind, phase II study conducted at 62
145 centers. It included a 2-week TCS run-in period prior to the 12-week treatment period. Patients
146 were instructed, with daily e-Diary reminders, to apply medium-potency TCS (0.1%
147 triamcinolone acetonide) to all lesional skin during run-in and study treatment. For lesions
148 affecting the face or intertriginous areas, 2.5% hydrocortisone could be used. TCS was
149 included in the regimen as, historically, studies of biologic therapies in a monotherapy setting
150 have led to high dropout/imputed patient failure rates, in particular due to disease severity. In
151 addition, add-on TCS treatment reflects 'real-life' clinical practice in patients with moderate-to-
152 severe AD. Further details about study design, pharmacokinetics (PK), outcome measures,
153 and statistical analyses are provided in the online supplement.

154 Patients

155 Eligible patients were aged 18–75 years, and had a diagnosis of moderate-to-severe AD with
156 an inadequate response to TCS (≥ 1 -month history within 3 months prior to screening) and
157 regular emollient. Other key inclusion criteria were: Eczema Area and Severity Index (EASI)
158 ≥ 14 and Investigator Global Assessment (IGA) score ≥ 3 at screening and end of the run-in
159 period, as well as AD involvement of $\geq 10\%$ of body surface area (BSA) and Pruritus Visual
160 Analog Scale (VAS) score ≥ 3 (measured as part of SCORing Atopic Dermatitis [SCORAD]) at
161 screening.

162 Exclusion criteria included: use of topical calcineurin inhibitors; recent systemic
163 immunosuppressive therapies or phototherapy; and evidence of other skin conditions,
164 including T-cell lymphoma or allergic contact dermatitis.

165 Randomization

166 Patients were randomized 1:1:1:1 to receive lebrikizumab 125 mg single dose (SD) at
167 baseline, 250 mg SD at baseline, 125 mg once every 4 weeks (Q4W), or placebo Q4W for 12
168 weeks.

169 Procedures

170 The 12-week treatment period was followed by an 8-week safety follow-up period, during
171 which patients could apply TCS as needed.

172 Disease severity assessments included EASI, IGA, and SCORAD; patient-reported outcome
173 (PRO) data were collected using the Dermatology Life Quality Index (DLQI) and AD Impact
174 Questionnaire (ADIQ).²¹

175 Outcomes

176 The primary endpoint was the percentage of patients achieving a 50% reduction in EASI score
177 from baseline (EASI-50) at Week 12. This EASI-50 also equates to a minimum of a 7-point
178 improvement from the required baseline score ≥ 14 in this study, which is above the minimum
179 clinically important difference of 6.6 points.²² Key secondary endpoints included the
180 percentages of patients achieving EASI-75, IGA score of 0/1, and SCORAD-50 at Week 12.
181 Safety outcomes, including treatment-emergent adverse events (AEs) and serious AEs
182 (SAEs), were monitored at each visit from baseline to Week 20. Eosinophil-associated AEs
183 were also monitored.

184 Statistical analyses

185 Primary and secondary efficacy analyses included all patients who were randomized and
186 received at least one dose of study drug, and were analyzed according to the treatment
187 assigned at randomization. Safety analyses included all patients who received at least one
188 dose of study drug, and were analyzed according to the treatment received. The Cochran-
189 Mantel–Haenszel χ^2 test was used to compare the proportions of patients with EASI-50 at
190 Week 12 in each of the lebrikizumab groups versus placebo, stratified by randomization
191 stratification factor geographic region (US/Canada, Europe, and other). Patients missing an
192 EASI score at Week 12 were considered non-responders.

193 Results

194 Trial patients

195 Overall, 209 patients received study drug (n=53 placebo; n=156 lebrikizumab) (Figure S1).
196 Baseline characteristics of patients were similar across treatment groups (Table I). There was
197 a high compliance rate of TCS use amongst all treatment groups, with TCS used on 86.8%
198 (125 mg SD), 86.7% (250 mg SD), 91.9% (125 mg Q4W), and 88.2% (placebo) of days on
199 average from baseline to Week 12. Further details of the results are provided in the online
200 supplement.

201 Primary outcome

202 At Week 12, significantly more patients in the lebrikizumab 125 mg Q4W group achieved
203 EASI-50 compared with placebo (82.45 vs 62.3%; p=0.026) (Figure 1A). However, the
204 response in the lebrikizumab SD groups was not statistically significant at Week 12. In the
205 Q4W arm, the response curve showed an upward sloping trajectory in the final weeks of
206 treatment (Figure 2A). Notably, patients in the placebo group, with protocol-mandated twice-
207 daily TCS application, showed a high response rate, with 62.3% of patients exhibiting an
208 EASI-50 response at Week 12.

209 Other AD severity measures

210 The proportion of patients achieving an EASI-75 response was significantly greater in the
211 125 mg Q4W group (54.9%; p=0.036) compared with placebo (34.0%), but did not achieve
212 statistical significance in the 125 mg and 250 mg SD groups at Week 12 (Figure 1B). As with
213 EASI-50 response, patients in the 125 mg Q4W group showed continued improvement in
214 EASI-75 over the final weeks of the treatment period (Figure 2B).

215 The percentage of patients who achieved IGA 0/1 at Week 12 was higher in all lebrikizumab
216 groups compared with placebo, but while there was a trend toward statistical significance with
217 the 125 mg Q4W group (33.3% vs 18.9%; p=0.098), single doses clearly did not achieve
218 statistical significance (Table S2).

219 For SCORAD-50, more patients in the lebrikizumab 125 mg Q4W group (51.0%; $p=0.012$) and
220 250 mg SD group (47.2%; $p=0.030$) achieved this endpoint compared with placebo (26.4%) at
221 Week 12 (Figure 1D). The greatest reduction in BSA affected at Week 12 was observed in the
222 lebrikizumab 125 mg Q4W group (57.7% reduction). There were also improvements in the
223 placebo group (47.4%), and placebo-corrected efficacy for BSA was not statistically significant
224 ($p=0.38$).

225 **Patient-reported symptoms and quality of life**

226 There were adjusted mean percent reductions from baseline pruritus VAS of 34.9%, 32.8%,
227 and 40.7% in the lebrikizumab 125 mg SD, 250 mg SD, and 125 mg Q4W groups,
228 respectively (Figure 3). The placebo group also showed reductions from baseline pruritus VAS
229 (27.5%), and placebo-corrected efficacy was not statistically significant ($p=0.40$ [125 mg SD],
230 $p=0.54$ [250 mg SD], and $p=0.13$ [125 mg Q4W]) (Table S1). Improvements in pruritus VAS
231 during the 2-week TCS run-in were quantitatively larger, in percentage terms, than
232 improvements in overall disease severity measures (Table S2).

233 There were also improvements in sleep loss VAS, with mean reduction from baseline in the
234 lebrikizumab 125 mg SD (53.1%; $p=0.029$), 250 mg SD (47.2%; $p=0.076$), and 125 mg Q4W
235 (53.6%; $p=0.023$) groups compared with the placebo group (22.6%) (Table S1).

236 Lebrikizumab groups showed numerical improvements, relative to placebo, in ADIQ and DLQI
237 scores from baseline to Week 12, with ADIQ showing borderline statistical significance for the
238 125 mg Q4W group ($p=0.057$), but results were otherwise not statistically significant (Table
239 S1).

240 **Safety**

241 Lebrikizumab was well tolerated, and there were no imbalances in proportions of patients
242 reporting AEs, SAEs, events leading to discontinuation, and overall infections when
243 comparing all lebrikizumab-treated patients with placebo (Table S5). There were no dose-
244 response relationships in adverse events. Three (2%) patients in the lebrikizumab group (all
245 doses combined) and one (2%) patient in placebo experienced an AE that led to withdrawal

246 from study. There were no deaths, anaphylactic reactions, malignancies, or protocol-defined
247 parasitic or targeted intracellular infections of interest. Injection-site reactions occurred
248 infrequently (1.3% all lebrikizumab groups and 1.9% placebo); all events were non-serious
249 and lasted a median of 1–3 days.

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250 **Discussion**

251 Lebrikizumab provided treatment benefit on top of rigorous TCS therapy in patients with
252 moderate-to-severe AD who had an inadequate response to TCS. The study met its primary
253 endpoint, with a statistically greater proportion of patients in the lebrikizumab 125 mg Q4W
254 group achieving an EASI-50 response, compared with placebo. The upward sloping response
255 curves over the final weeks of the treatment period suggest that the response plateau might
256 not have been reached by Week 12 for lebrikizumab 125 mg Q4W, and that a longer
257 treatment duration may lead to improved efficacy. Although improvements with the single
258 doses were not statistically significant at Week 12, the significant responses observed with the
259 highest lebrikizumab dose (125 mg Q4W) may indicate a dose-response relationship.

260 Dosing within this study was based largely on experience from the lebrikizumab asthma
261 program and the objective of characterizing both dose-response relationships and dosing
262 frequency requirements in AD. The dose-response relationships observed across multiple
263 endpoints, and the trends towards improved efficacy with increasing dose and duration,
264 suggest that further increases in the dose and/or treatment duration may have resulted in
265 improved efficacy. Notably, the lebrikizumab 250 mg SD group showed numerically higher
266 responses at earlier time points for several outcomes, suggesting the potential benefit of
267 either higher dosing (e.g. 250 mg Q4W) and/or a loading dose. The observed differences in
268 the lebrikizumab dose-response relationship between forced expiratory volume in 1 second in
269 asthma patients¹⁷ and EASI/IGA endpoints in AD patients suggest that AD may require higher
270 doses of lebrikizumab to achieve a response plateau. This would suggest a higher IL-13
271 burden in AD than in asthma. Further studies in AD will be required to confirm whether
272 additional clinical benefit can be observed with tailored dosing.

273 Lebrikizumab was generally well tolerated, and AE rates were similar between treatment
274 groups. This safety profile is consistent with that observed in the extensive asthma
275 program.^{15,17-20,23} Previously reported increases in peripheral blood eosinophil counts with
276 lebrikizumab treatment are possibly due to decreased eosinophil trafficking from blood to the
277 airways as a result of reduced chemotaxis by blocking IL-13 activity.^{15,20} In the TREBLE study,

278 although eosinophil-associated AEs occurred only among lebrikizumab-treated patients, they
279 were reported infrequently (n=5 [3.2%]), all events were non-serious, and none were
280 associated with clinical signs or symptoms, or resulted in dose reductions or treatment
281 discontinuation.

282 The study protocol required twice-daily TCS during the 2-week run-in period, and patients
283 were only eligible for randomization if they manifested sufficient AD severity after this run-in.
284 Although patients included in this study had a history of inadequate control by TCS, this TCS
285 run-in nonetheless led to disease improvement, with lower baseline AD severity scores,
286 especially itch. Although there is rationale for such a design, it does potentially leave less
287 room for disease improvement than without a run-in period.

288 During the treatment period, patients continued twice-daily application of TCS, with daily e-
289 Diary reminders, achieving an 88% compliance rate. TCS application may explain the
290 substantial response observed in placebo and may also have attenuated placebo-corrected
291 efficacy. Prolonged and frequent TCS use has been shown to result in progressive
292 improvements in AD, but most guidelines suggest limiting daily use to avoid AEs.²⁴⁻²⁶
293 However, while daily TCS use is typically recommended for acute lesions, rather than
294 chronically,⁵ this proof-of-concept study sought to understand the potential efficacy of
295 lebrikizumab in addition to continuous TCS, and not to assess TCS sparing. The chosen
296 regimen is consistent with TCS labeling, and also considers regulatory concerns regarding off-
297 label usage at a lower frequency than mandated by product labeling. It was also recognized
298 that alternate designs could lead to substantial patient dropout and/or imputed patient failure
299 within the control arm. Indeed, studies of biologic therapies in a monotherapy setting have led
300 to dropout/imputed patient failure rates of approximately 50% within the control arm,¹³ in
301 contrast to the dropout rate of 13% for the placebo arm in this study. Nonetheless, despite the
302 relatively high efficacy of prolonged and frequent TCS use, there were still significant
303 improvements, particularly in AD signs (EASI) and global scores (SCORAD) after addition of
304 lebrikizumab.

305 Dupilumab, an anti-IL-4R α monoclonal antibody, demonstrated efficacy in patients with
306 moderate-to-severe AD and has been recently approved in AD. IL-4R α is a receptor subunit
307 for both IL-4 and IL-13 signaling. Studies of dupilumab in AD patients provide insight into the
308 potential of IL-13 blockade to treat AD, with the caveat that the relative importance of IL-4
309 compared with IL-13 in AD has not been established. Both IL-13 and IL-4 share overlapping
310 biology and effector functions.^{27,28} Given such high overlap in biology, blockade of IL-13 alone
311 could potentially provide comparable improvements in AD to blockade of IL-13 and IL-4 in
312 combination, with a more specific targeted action.

313 Targeting a soluble cytokine such as IL-13 may also offer the advantage of a linear PK profile
314 with resulting improvements in sustained target coverage and dosing frequency. This linear
315 PK, combined with the long half-life of lebrikizumab (19–22 days), in part explains the ability to
316 dose lebrikizumab Q4W, and may allow for less frequent dosing during maintenance. Indeed,
317 the fact that single-dose groups showed improving placebo-corrected efficacy through Week 8
318 suggests the potential for such a dosing regimen. In contrast, receptor targeting is associated
319 with target-mediated drug clearance that may lead to rapid declines in concentration after drug
320 discontinuation or interruption, as with dupilumab, which is dosed every 2 weeks.²⁹

321 The results of this proof-of-concept study, using doses based on experience in asthma,
322 suggest that IL-13-mediated signaling pathways play an important role in the pathogenesis of
323 AD, and the blockade of this cytokine could lead to significant clinical benefit. Patients with
324 moderate-to-severe AD showed improvements with lebrikizumab treatment, even with single
325 doses and twice-daily TCS use. However, the twice-daily use of TCS before and during this
326 trial in all study groups impaired the ability to fully assess the efficacy of lebrikizumab in AD,
327 and monotherapy studies may be needed to assess the efficacy of lebrikizumab. The dose-
328 response relationships and kinetics of response observed in this study suggest that future
329 studies of longer duration, with loading, higher, and potentially less frequent dosing, and in a
330 larger population on different (or without) background regimens will help clarify the role of
331 targeting IL-13 with lebrikizumab in AD.

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339 Contributors

340 All authors contributed to the analysis and interpretation of the data, and the critical revision of
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423 randomised, placebo-controlled, dose-ranging phase 2b trial. *Lancet.* 2016;387(10013):40-52.
424

425 **Abbreviations**

426	AD	Atopic dermatitis
427	ADIQ	Atopic Dermatitis Impact Questionnaire
428	AE	Adverse event
429	BSA	Body surface area
430	DLQI	Dermatology Life Quality Index
431	EASI	Eczema Area and Severity Index
432	HRQoL	Health-related quality of life
433	IGA	Investigator Global Assessment
434	IL-4	Interleukin-4
435	IL-13	Interleukin-13
436	PK	Pharmacokinetic
437	PRO	Patient-reported outcome
438	Q4W	Once every 4 weeks
439	SAE	Serious adverse events
440	SCORAD	SCORing Atopic Dermatitis
441	SD	Single dose
442	SDv	Standard deviation
443	TCS	Topical corticosteroids
444	VAS	Visual Analog Scale

445 **Figure legends**

446 **Figure 1. Atopic dermatitis. Proportion of patients achieving (A) EASI-50, (B) EASI-75,**
447 **(C) IGA 0/1, and (D) SCORAD-50 at Week 12**

448 EASI=Eczema Area Severity Index; IGA=Investigator Global Assessment; Q4W=once every
449 4 weeks; SCORAD=SCORing Atopic Dermatitis; SD=single dose.

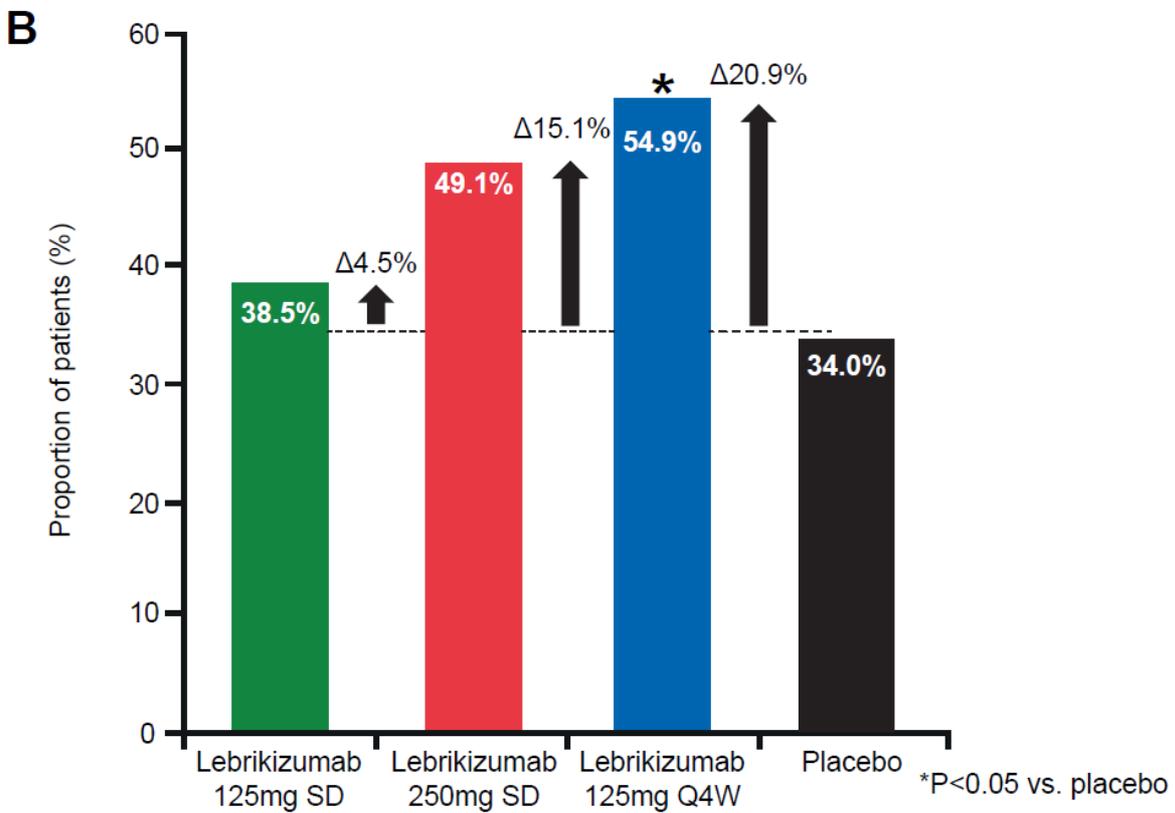
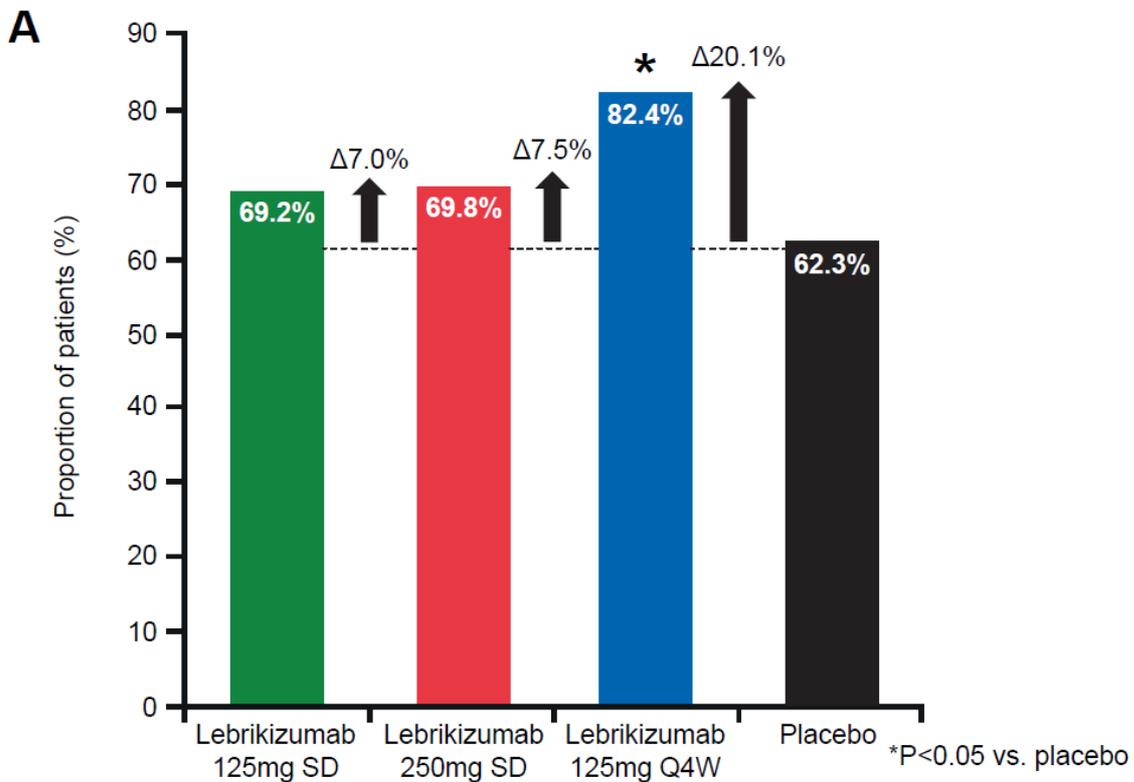
450 **Figure 2. Atopic dermatitis. Proportion of patients achieving (A) EASI-50, (B) EASI-75,**
451 **(C) IGA 0/1, and (D) SCORAD-50 over time**

452 EASI=Eczema Area Severity Index; IGA=Investigator Global Assessment; Q4W=once every
453 4 weeks; SCORAD=SCORing Atopic Dermatitis; SD=single dose

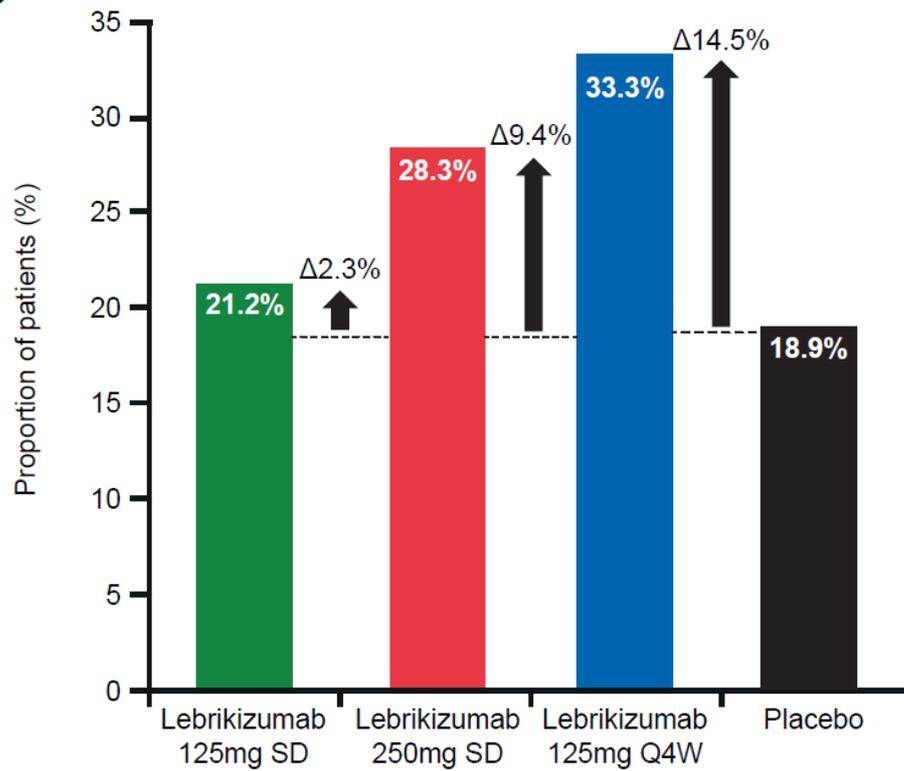
454 **Figure 3. Atopic dermatitis. Adjusted mean percent change from baseline in (A)**
455 **pruritus VAS, (B) sleep loss VAS, (C) ADIQ, and (D) DLQI over time**

456 ADIQ=Atopic Dermatitis Impact Questionnaire; DLQI=Dermatology Life Quality Index;
457 Q4W=once every 4 weeks; SD=single dose; VAS=Visual Analog Scale.

458 **Figure 1. Atopic dermatitis. Proportion of patients achieving (A) EASI-50, (B) EASI-75,**
459 **(C) IGA 0/1, and (D) SCORAD-50 at Week 12**

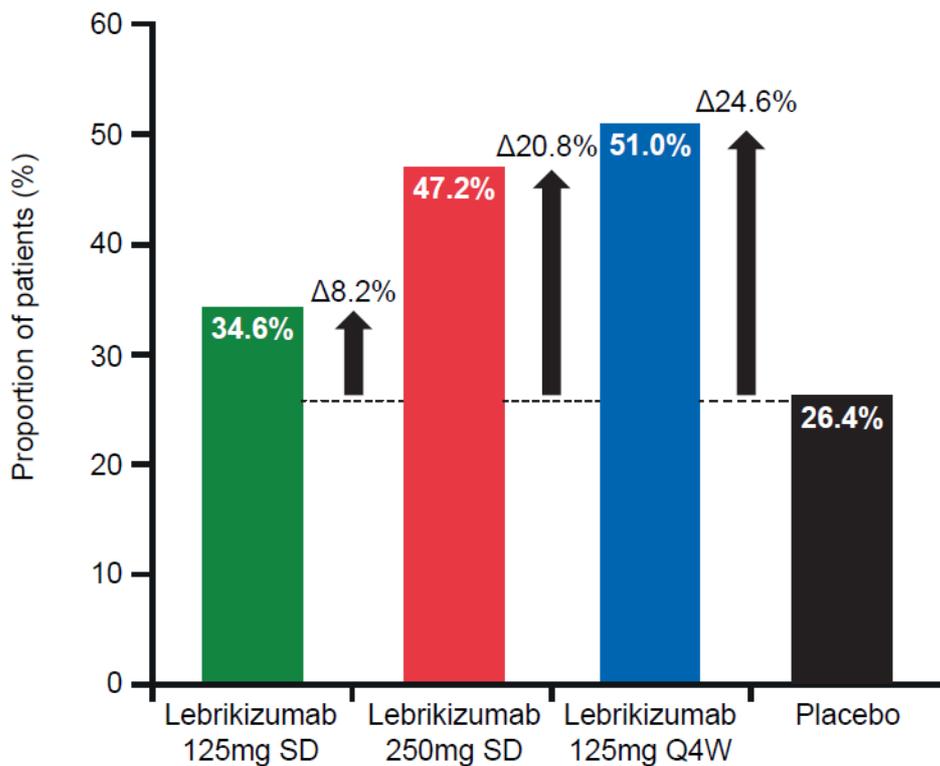


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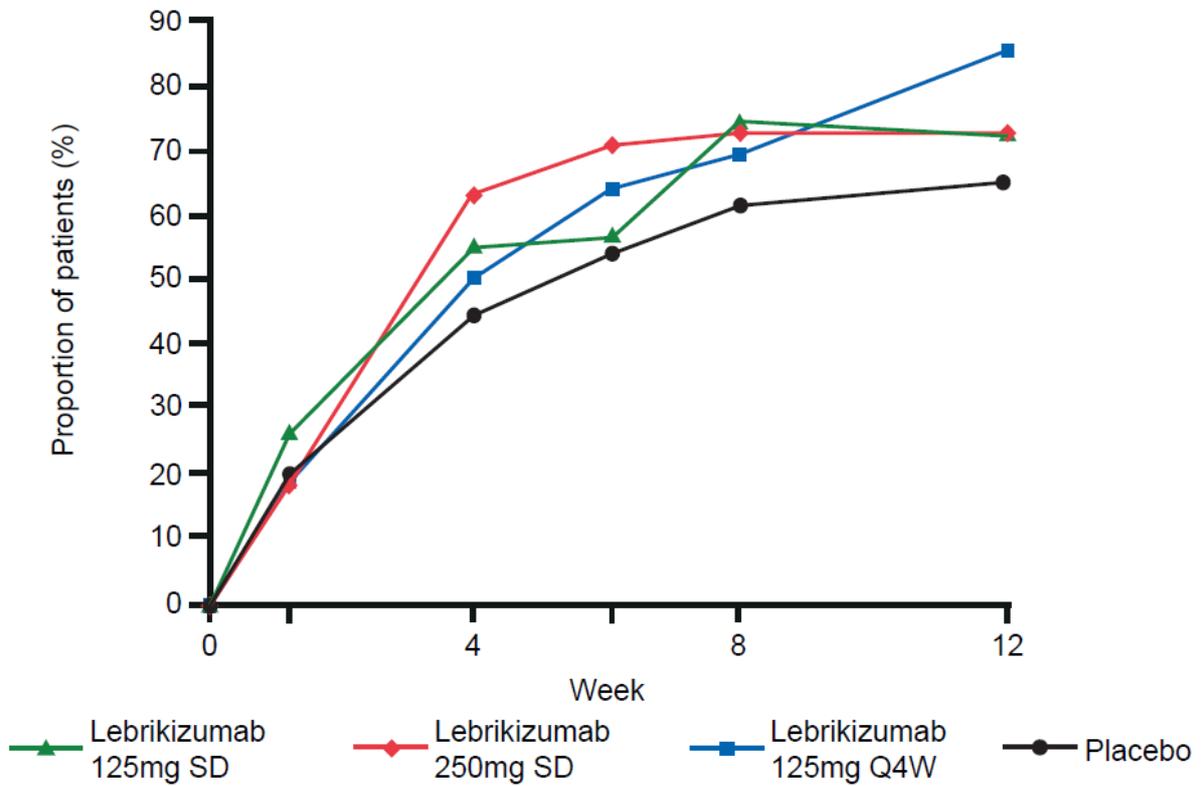
EASI=Eczema Area Severity Index; IGA=Investigator Global Assessment; Q4W=once every

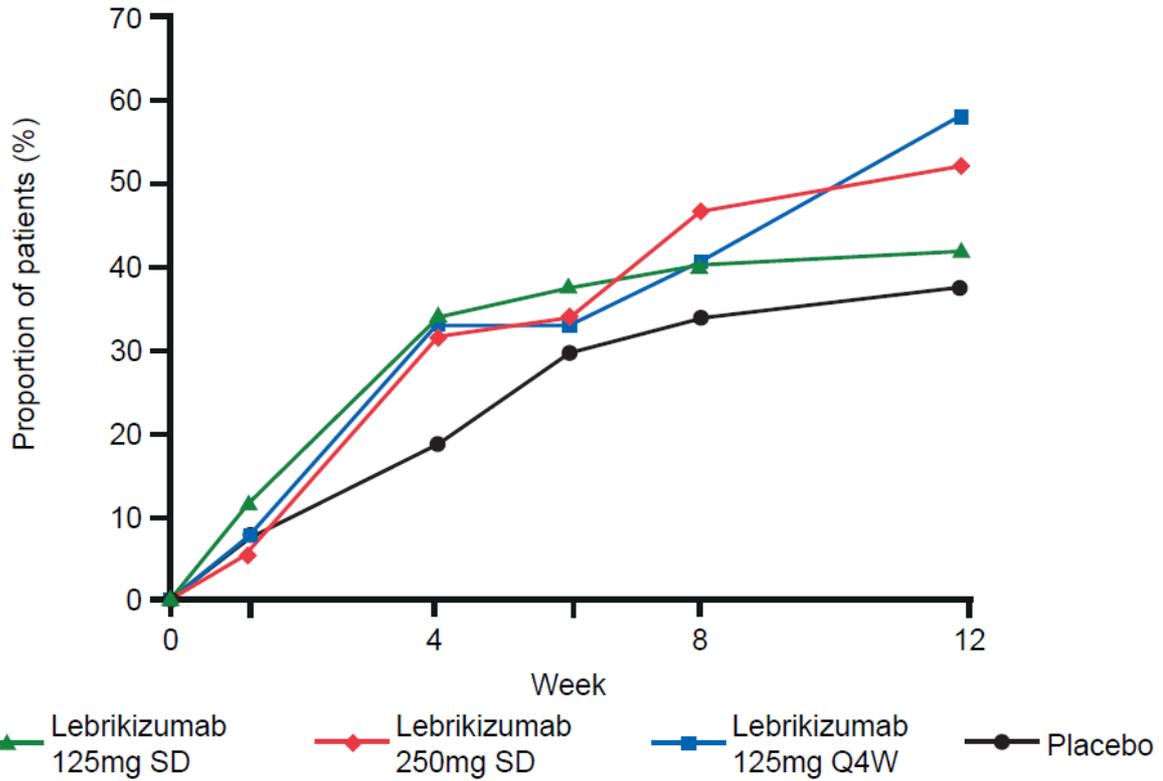
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4 weeks; SCORAD=SCORing Atopic Dermatitis; SD=single dose.

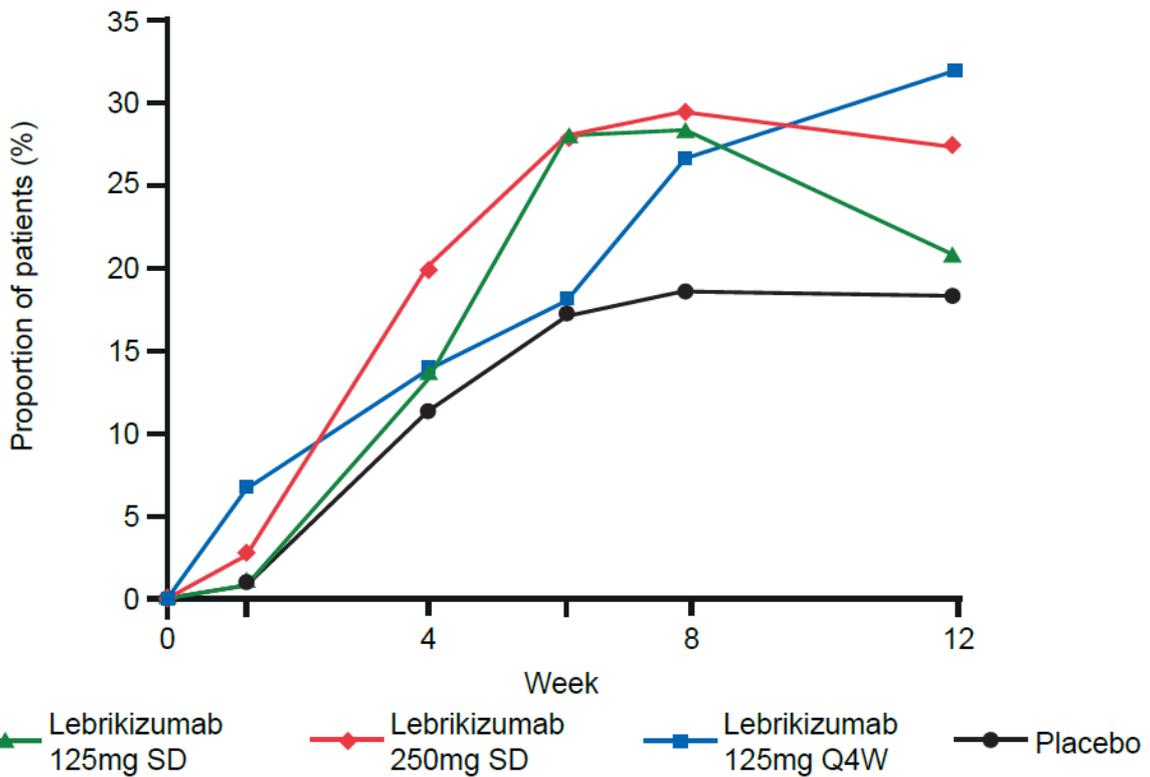
466 **Figure 2. Atopic dermatitis. Proportion of patients achieving (A) EASI-50, (B) EASI-75,**
467 **(C) IGA 0/1, and (D) SCORAD-50 over time**

A



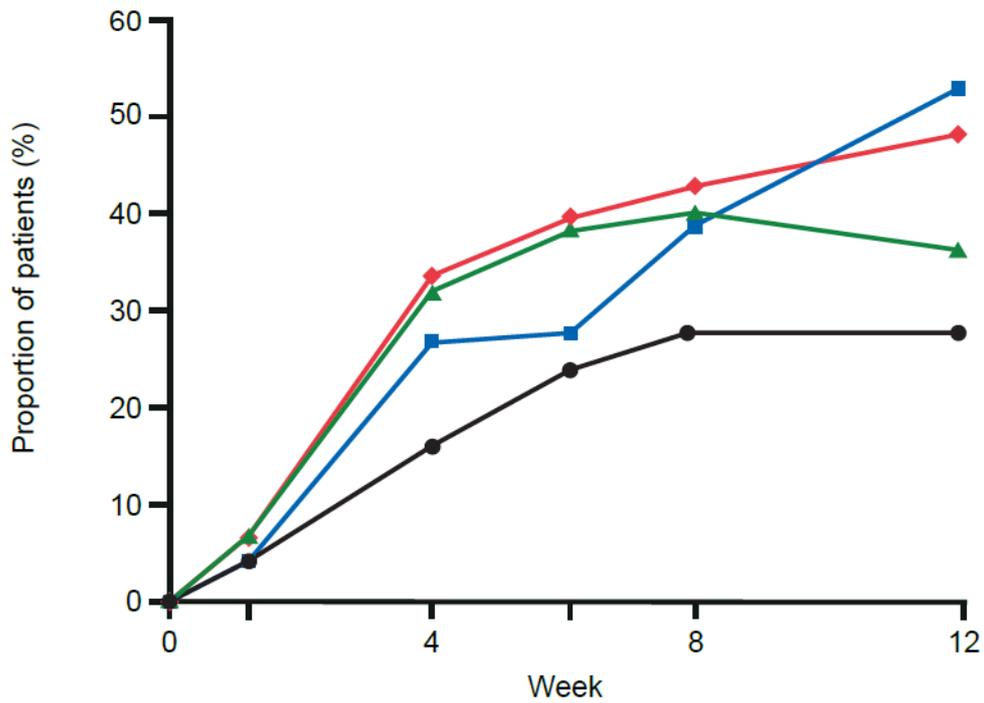
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471 ▲ Lebrikizumab 125mg SD ◆ Lebrikizumab 250mg SD ■ Lebrikizumab 125mg Q4W ● Placebo

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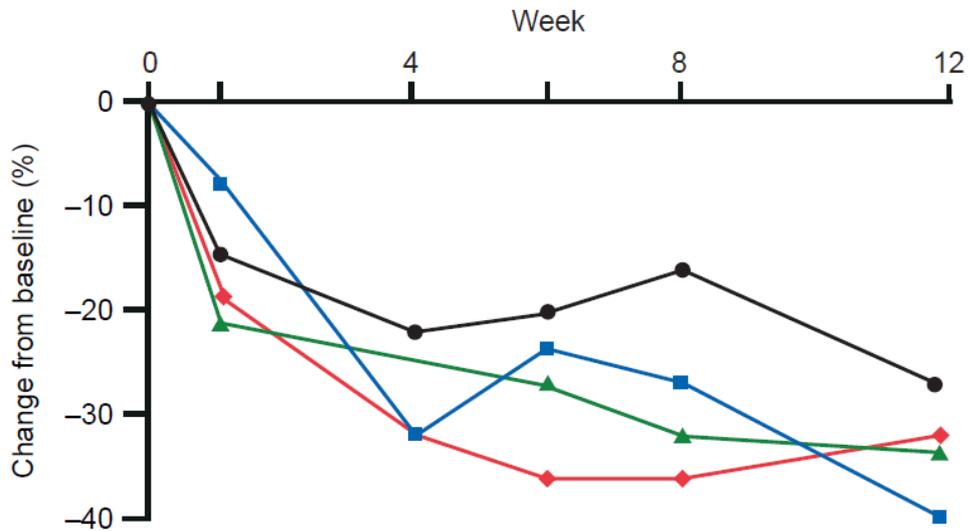
EASI=Eczema Area Severity Index; IGA=Investigator Global Assessment; Q4W=once every

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4 weeks; SCORAD=SCORing Atopic Dermatitis; SD=single dose.

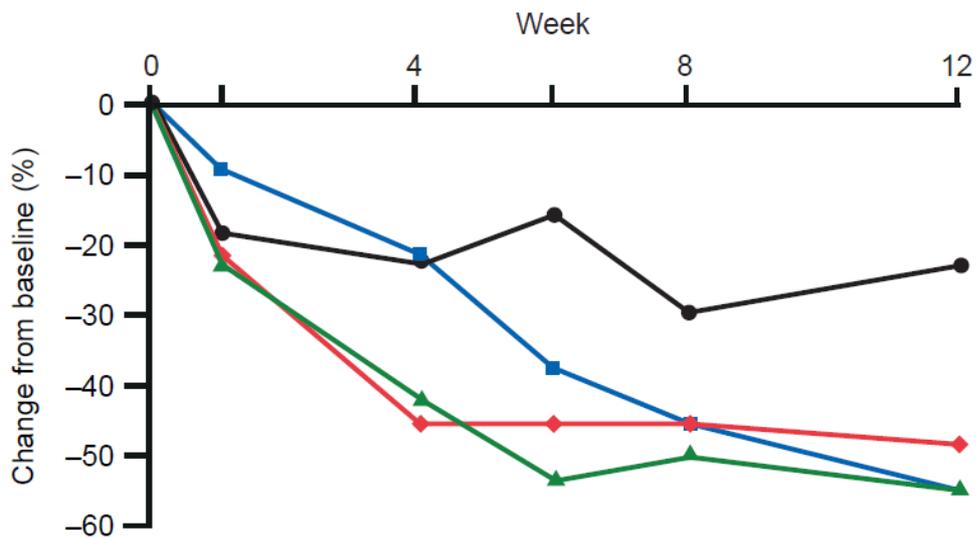
474 **Figure 3. Atopic dermatitis. Adjusted mean percent change from baseline in (A)**
 475 **pruritus VAS, (B) sleep loss VAS, (C) ADIQ, and (D) DLQI over time**

A



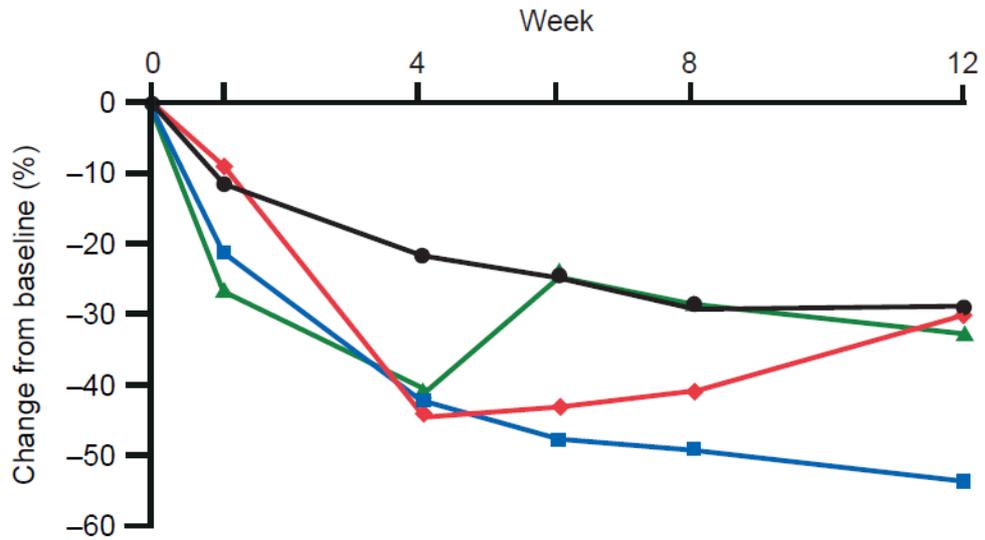
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 —▲— Lebrikizumab 125mg SD —◆— Lebrikizumab 250mg SD —■— Lebrikizumab 125mg Q4W —●— Placebo

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 —▲— Lebrikizumab 125mg SD —◆— Lebrikizumab 250mg SD —■— Lebrikizumab 125mg Q4W —●— Placebo

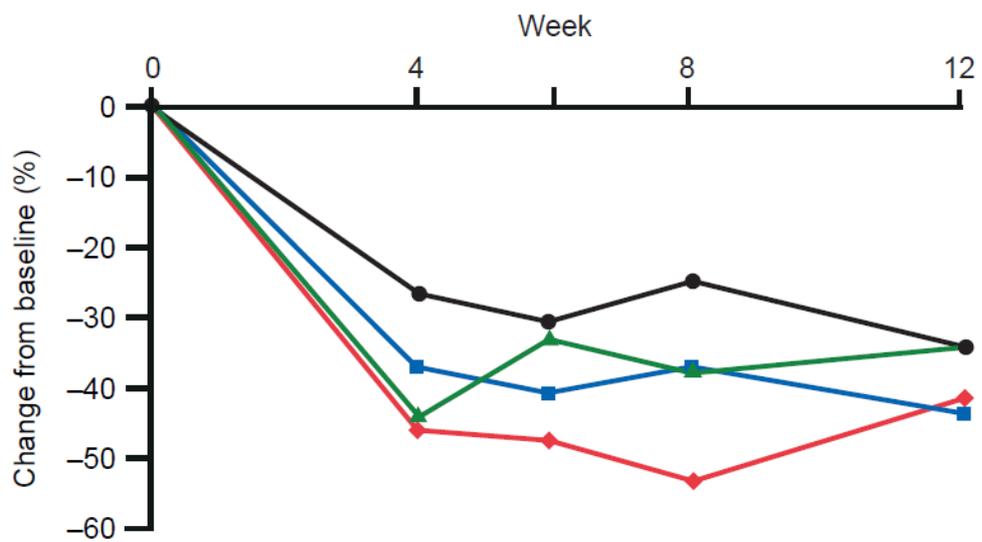
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▲ Lebrikizumab 125mg SD
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 ● Placebo

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▲ Lebrikizumab 125mg SD
 ◆ Lebrikizumab 250mg SD
 ■ Lebrikizumab 125mg Q4W
 ● Placebo

480 ADIQ=Atopic Dermatitis Impact Questionnaire; DLQI=Dermatology Life Quality Index;

481 Q4W=once every 4 weeks; SD=single dose; VAS=Visual Analog Scale.

482 **Table I. Atopic dermatitis. Baseline characteristics and demographics**

	Lebrikizumab 125 mg single dose (n=52)	Lebrikizumab 250 mg single dose (n=53)	Lebrikizumab 125 mg Q4W (n=51)	Placebo (n=53)
Mean age, year (SDv)	34.9 (12.7)	34.4 (12.3)	36.6 (12.3)	38.7 (13.2)
Male, n (%)	34 (65.4)	31 (58.5)	35 (68.6)	36 (67.9)
Race, n (%)				
White	36 (69)	43 (81)	36 (71)	35 (66)
Asian	13 (25)	9 (17)	15 (29)	16 (30)
Other	3 (6)	1 (2)	0	2 (4)
Mean Rajka- Langeland (SDv)	8.50 (0.73)	8.49 (0.67)	8.34 (0.87)	7.96 (1.06)
Mean EASI (SDv)	24.6 (11.1)	26.3 (12.2)	26.9 (11.7)	23.6 (9.2)
Mean SCORAD (SDv)	56.5 (13.4)	58.9 (13.5)	60.8 (13.6)	59.2 (12.0)
Mean IGA (SDv)	3.2 (0.4)	3.3 (0.5)	3.2 (0.42)	3.2 (0.4)
IGA=4, n (%)	10 (19)	15 (28)	11 (22)	11 (21)
Mean % BSA affected (SDv)	44.2 (21.3)	50.5 (24.7)	48.5 (22.7)	43.4 (22.0)

483 BSA=body surface area; EASI=Eczema Area Severity Index; IGA=Investigator Global Assessment; Q4W=once

484 every 4 weeks; SCORAD=SCORing Atopic Dermatitis; SDv=standard deviation

485 **APPENDIX**486 **Supplementary Methods**

487 Study design

488 This study included a 2-week topical corticosteroid (TCS) run-in period prior to the 12-week
489 treatment period, with the goal of standardizing the background therapy prior to
490 randomization and demonstrating failure to respond to TCS alone. To assess TCS
491 adherence, patients were required to record medication use in e-Diary devices.

492 The study was undertaken in accordance with Good Clinical Practice guidelines and
493 adhered to the Declaration of Helsinki.

494 Patients

495 Eligible patients had a diagnosis of moderate-to-severe AD as graded by the Rajka-
496 Langeland criteria that had been present for at least 1 year at screening.

497 In addition to those stated in the manuscript, key exclusion criteria included: past and/or
498 current use of any anti-IL-13 or anti-IL-4/IL-13 monoclonal antibody; and clinically significant
499 abnormality on screening electrocardiogram or laboratory tests.

500 Randomization and masking

501 Three active doses were included to characterize both exposure–response relationships and
502 dosing frequency requirements. A blocked randomization scheme stratified by region was
503 used with a block size of four. To maintain blinding, a placebo arm was included, and all
504 patients were administered two prefilled syringes on Day 1 (placebo patients received two
505 1mL placebo syringes, 125 mg patients received one 1mL syringe of lebrikizumab 125
506 mg/mL and one placebo syringe, and 250 mg patients received two 1mL syringes of
507 lebrikizumab 125 mg/mL); all randomized patients received a total of four subcutaneous
508 injections (two on Day 1, one on Day 29, and one on Day 57, i.e. three doses) of study drug
509 (lebrikizumab or placebo) over the first 8 weeks of the 12-week blinded treatment period.

510 Placebo was prepared with the same formulation as lebrikizumab without addition of the
511 active agent, and both formulations were identical in appearance.

512 Procedures

513 Assessments occurred on Weeks 1, 4, 6, 8, and 12 during the 12-week treatment period.
514 Days 1, 29, and 57 (Weeks 1, 4, and 8) were treatment days, during which assessments
515 were carried out prior to study drug administration. The DLQI and ADIQ questionnaires were
516 self-administered at the study site prior to other non-PRO assessments. A study completion
517 visit was performed at the end of Week 20.

518 The use of TCS other than that provided was prohibited.

519 As anaphylaxis, anaphylactoid, and hypersensitivity reactions are considered a potential risk
520 with all biologic medications, all potential cases were identified and sent for adjudication by
521 an independent lebrikizumab Anaphylaxis Adjudication Committee.

522 Pharmacokinetics

523 Serum samples for analysis of lebrikizumab PKs were obtained in all patients at Day 1 (pre-
524 dose) and at Weeks 1, 4 (pre-dose), 6, 8 (pre-dose), 12, 16, and 20 for all dosing regimens.
525 Serum lebrikizumab concentrations were summarized by treatment and visit using
526 descriptive statistics for the patients that received one of the lebrikizumab treatment
527 regimens. The reported PK parameters include the Week 1 C_{max} , C_{min} at Weeks 4, 8, and 12,
528 and the elimination half-life.

529 Outcomes

530 In addition to those stated in the manuscript, key secondary efficacy endpoints included the
531 percentage change from baseline in EASI score at Week 12; percentage change from
532 baseline in SCORAD at Week 12; percentage change from baseline in total % BSA affected
533 at Week 12; percentage change from baseline in itch as measured by SCORAD pruritus
534 VAS at Week 12; and absolute and percentage change in DLQI and ADIQ.

535 Other analyses included percentage change in SCORAD sleep loss VAS, as well as
536 percentage of patients with an absolute change in pruritus VAS ≥ 3 from baseline, where the
537 threshold of 3 was based on the minimum clinically important difference for that instrument.

538 The ADIQ is an AD-specific measure of HRQoL for use in patients aged ≥ 12 years,
539 developed by Genentech/Roche following US Food and Drug Administration PRO Guidance
540 (2009).

541 **Statistical analyses**

542 Enrollment of 50 patients per treatment group was estimated to provide at least 90% power
543 to detect a 40% difference in the proportion of patients with EASI-50 between each
544 lebrikizumab group and the placebo group at Week 12, under the assumption of a two-sided
545 type I error rate of 0.05, a dropout rate of 20%, and an EASI-50 rate at Week 12 in the
546 placebo group of approximately 20%.

547 Statistical analyses of all endpoints related to a binary outcome used the same methodology
548 as described for the primary endpoint. Point estimates of the proportions by treatment group,
549 corresponding differences from placebo, and associated two-sided 95% confidence intervals
550 (CI) for differences in proportions were provided.

551 Change from baseline for continuous endpoints was analyzed using a mixed-effects model
552 for repeat measures, including fixed effects of baseline value, treatment group, visit,
553 treatment by visit interaction, and geographic region; the variable "patient" was included in
554 the model as random effects with unstructured covariance structure. Missing data were
555 implicitly imputed by the model (assuming missing at random). The 95% CIs and two-sided
556 p-values were reported for all secondary efficacy endpoints. No adjustments for multiplicity
557 were made.

558 All analyses were performed using SAS.

559 An internal monitoring committee was incorporated to monitor patient safety throughout the
560 study.

561 Supplementary Results**562 Trial patients**

563 A total of 294 patients were assessed for eligibility; 82 were ineligible and 212 patients were
564 randomized. Of the 212 patients randomized, 209 received study drug. Among enrolled and
565 treated patients, the mean age (standard deviation) at baseline was 36.1±12.6 years; 35%
566 were female and 72% were Caucasian. Patients had on average 47% of their BSA affected,
567 an average SCORAD of 59, and an EASI of 25. These baseline severity scores were already
568 improved in comparison to screening due to the 2-week run-in period with twice-daily TCS
569 application (Online Appendix Table S2). The most common reason for screen failure (n=26
570 of 82 [31.7%] screen-failed patients) was patients not meeting the inclusion criterion of EASI
571 score ≥ 14 due to improvements in EASI score during the run-in period.

572 Efficacy during safety follow-up

573 Overall, exploratory analyses showed that the proportion of patients maintaining EASI-50
574 (90.5%), EASI-75 (75.0%), and IGA 0/1 (70.6%) responses with lebrikizumab 125 mg Q4W
575 from Week 12 to Week 20 followed a similar pattern to that observed at Week 12. Dose-
576 dependent responses were also observed for percent change from baseline pruritus VAS at
577 Week 20.

578 Pharmacokinetics

579 The mean PK parameters and respective standard deviations for each of the lebrikizumab
580 dosing regimens are shown in Table S4. As expected, the PKs of lebrikizumab in AD
581 patients were linear and dose-proportional over the dose range tested. The PK of
582 lebrikizumab was also consistent with that of previous studies in adult asthma,¹⁻⁴ showing
583 linear, dose-proportional characteristics with a half-life of 19–22 days.

584 Safety

585 The rate of injection-site reactions was low in both the lebrikizumab-treated and placebo
586 groups (1.3% and 1.9%, respectively). Herpes infections occurred infrequently and only

587 among lebrikizumab-treated patients (n=6 [3.8%]; herpes simplex in n=4 [2.6%], and herpes
588 zoster in n=2 [1.3%]); all events were non-serious, mild in intensity, and resolved by the end
589 of the study; there were no events of eczema herpeticum. Five (3.2%) lebrikizumab-treated
590 patients reported eosinophil-associated AEs (3 events of “eosinophilia” and 2 events of
591 “eosinophil count increased”); all events were non-serious and mild-to-moderate in intensity.
592 There were no associated clinical symptoms noted with these five AEs. The maximum
593 eosinophil count in these five patients ranged from 1.0 to 3.2 x 10⁹/L; of these, three were
594 Grade 2 eosinophilia (1,501–5,000 cell/mm³). The increases observed were in line with what
595 has been seen in previous lebrikizumab studies.^{2,5} Given the previous imbalances reported
596 in biologic trials in AD,⁶ we evaluated conjunctivitis: a total of 15 (9.6%) patients in the
597 pooled lebrikizumab group and four patients (7.5%) in placebo had a conjunctivitis AE; all
598 events were non-serious, none led to treatment discontinuation, and there was not a dose-
599 response relationship.

600 **Table S1. Atopic dermatitis. Summary of primary and secondary efficacy outcomes at**
 601 **Week 12**

Efficacy endpoint	Lebrikizumab 125 mg single dose (n=52)	Lebrikizumab 250 mg single dose (n=53)	Lebrikizumab 125 mg Q4W (n=51)	Placebo (n=53)
PRIMARY ENDPOINT				
EASI-50				
% patients	69.2	69.8	82.4	62.3
Δ (95% CI)	7.0 (-11.1, 25.1)	7.5 (-10.4, 25.5)	20.1 (3.4, 36.8)	
p-value	0.48	0.44	0.026	
SECONDARY ENDPOINTS				
IGA 0/1				
% patients	21.2	28.3	33.3	18.9
Δ (95% CI)	2.3 (-13.0, 17.6)	9.4 (-6.6, 25.5)	14.5 (-2.2, 31.2)	
p-value	0.77	0.26	0.098	
EASI-75				
% patients	38.5	49.1	54.9	34.0
Δ (95% CI)	4.5 (-13.9, 22.9)	15.1 (-3.4, 33.6)	20.9 (2.3, 39.6)	
p-value	0.66	0.12	0.036	
EASI score, % change from baseline				
Adjusted mean (SE)	-58.5 (5.36)	-57.7 (5.26)	-70.5 (5.45)	-53.1 (5.38)
Δ (95% CI)	-5.3 (-20.3, 9.7)	-4.6 (-19.4, 10.3)	-17.4 (-32.5, -2.2)	
p-value	0.48	0.55	0.025	
SCORAD-50				
% patients	34.6	47.2	51.0	26.4

Δ (95% CI)	8.2 (-9.4, 25.8)	20.8 (2.8, 38.7)	24.6 (6.4, 42.7)	
p-value	0.38	0.030	0.012	
SCORAD, % change from baseline				
Adjusted mean (SE)	-38.7 (4.14)	-42.6 (4.07)	-53.5 (4.22)	
Δ (95% CI)	-3.3 (-14.9, 8.3)	-7.2 (-18.7, 4.3)	-18.0 (-29.7, -6.4)	-35.4 (4.16)
p-value	0.57	0.22	0.0026	
Total % BSA affected, % change from baseline				
Adjusted mean (SE)	-45.2 (8.21)	-38.6 (8.07)	-57.7 (8.35)	
Δ (95% CI)	2.2 (-20.7, 25.1)	8.8 (-13.9, 31.6)	-10.3 (-33.4, 12.9)	-47.4 (8.24)
p-value	0.85	0.45	0.38	
Pruritus (VAS), % change from baseline				
Adjusted mean (SE)	-34.9 (6.14)	-32.8 (5.95)	-40.7 (6.19)	
Δ (95% CI)	-7.4 (-24.5, 9.7)	-5.3 (-22.1, 11.6)	-13.2 (-30.3, 4.0)	-27.5 (6.12)
p-value	0.40	0.54	0.13	
Sleep loss (VAS), % change from baseline				
Adjusted mean (SE)	-53.1 (9.90)	-47.2 (9.83)	-53.6 (9.49)	
Δ (95% CI)	-30.6 (-57.9, -3.2)	-24.6 (-51.8, 2.6)	-31.0 (-57.8, -4.2)	-22.6 (9.70)
p-value	0.029	0.076	0.023	
ADIQ, % change from baseline				
Adjusted mean (SE)	-33.2 (9.15)	-30.8 (8.99)	-54.3 (9.17)	
Δ (95% CI)	-3.7 (-29.2, 21.8)	-1.3 (-26.6, 24.0)	-24.8 (-50.3, 0.7)	-29.5 (9.13)
p-value	0.77	0.92	0.057	
DLQI, % change from baseline				
Adjusted mean (SE)	-34.3 (6.93)	-40.7 (6.69)	-43.1 (7.02)	
Δ (95% CI)	-0.8 (-20.0, 18.5)	-7.1 (-26.0, 11.9)	-9.6 (-28.9, 9.8)	-33.6 (6.93)
p-value	0.94	0.46	0.33	

602 ADIQ=Atopic Dermatitis Impact Questionnaire; BSA=body surface area; CI=confidence interval;
603 DLQI=Dermatology Life Quality Index; EASI=Eczema Area Severity Index; IGA=Investigator Global Assessment;
604 Q4W=once every 4 weeks; SCORAD=SCORing Atopic Dermatitis; SE=standard error; VAS=Visual Analog
605 Scale.
606

ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

607 **Table S2. Atopic dermatitis. Percent change in EASI, SCORAD, IGA, pruritus VAS,**
 608 **sleep loss VAS and percent BSA affected from screening to baseline (run-in)**

	Lebrikizumab 125 mg single dose (n=52)	Lebrikizumab 250 mg single dose (n=53)	Lebrikizumab 125 mg Q4W (n=51)	Placebo (n=53)	All patients (n=209)
Mean % change in EASI (SDv)	-14.3 (27.6)	-10.2 (29.2)	-9.1 (22.7)	-6.4 (32.2)	-10.0 (28.1)
Mean absolute change in IGA (SDv)	-0.21 (0.50)	-0.17 (0.51)	-0.14 (0.40)	-0.09 (0.45)	-0.15 (0.47)
Mean % change in SCORAD (SDv)	-12.2 (20.0)	-9.9 (14.7)	-7.7 (15.0)	-5.0 (20.3)	-8.7 (17.8)
Mean % change in % BSA affected (SDv)	-17.1 (26.7)	-4.3 (26.9)	-9.3 (27.0)	-6.2 (23.2)	-9.2 (26.3)
Mean % change in pruritus VAS (SDv)	-23.8 (29.6)	-15.5 (28.6)	-15.2 (39.4)	-12.8 (29.8)	-16.8 (32.1)
Mean % change in sleep loss VAS (SDv)	-29.0 (43.6)	-8.1 (81.8)	-12.9 (40.1)	-5.4 (57.2)	-13.9 (58.2)

609 BSA=body surface area; EASI=Eczema Area Severity Index; IGA=Investigator Global Assessment; Q4W=once
 610 every 4 weeks; SCORAD=SCORing Atopic Dermatitis; SDv=standard deviation; VAS=Visual Analog Scale.

611 **Table S3. Atopic dermatitis. Summary of key efficacy outcomes at Week 20**

	Lebrikizumab 125 mg single dose	Lebrikizumab 250 mg single dose	Lebrikizumab 125 mg Q4W	Placebo
Patients maintaining EASI-50 response from Week 12 to Week 20				
N (%)	29/36 (80.6)	29/37 (78.4)	38/42 (90.5)	24/33 (72.7)
Placebo-corrected differences (SE)	7.8	5.7	17.8	
p-value	0.39	0.58	0.047	
Patients maintaining EASI-75 response from Week 12 to Week 20				
N (%)	9/20 (45.0)	16/26 (61.5)	21/28 (75.0)	12/18 (66.7)
Placebo-corrected differences (SE)	-21.7	-5.1	8.3	
p-value	0.20	0.81	0.54	
Patients maintaining IGA 0/1 response from Week 12 to Week 20				
N (%)	6/11 (54.5)	9/15 (60.0)	12/17 (70.6)	6/10 (60)
Placebo-corrected differences (SE)	-5.5	0	10.6	
p-value	0.97	0.94	0.58	
Patients maintaining SCORAD-50 response from Week 12 to Week 20				
N (%)	11/18 (61.1)	16/25 (64.0)	13/26 (50.0)	11/14 (78.6)
Placebo-corrected differences (SE)	-17.5	-14.6	-28.6	
p-value	0.34	0.49	0.13	
Percent change from baseline in EASI				
Adjusted mean % change (SE)	-62.1 (5.43)	-55.9 (5.28)	-71.1 (5.50)	-54.1 (5.49)

Placebo-corrected differences (95% CI)	-8.1 (-23.3, 7.1)	-1.9 (-16.9, 13.2)	-17.1 (-32.4, -1.7)	
p-value	0.30	0.81	0.03	
Percent change from baseline in the % BSA affected				
Adjusted mean % change (SE)	-53.6 (6.10)	-46.4 (5.96)	-63.8 (6.19)	-52.0 (6.16)
Placebo-corrected differences (95% CI)	-1.6 (-18.7, 15.5)	5.6 (-11.4, 22.5)	-11.8 (-29.0, 5.5)	
p-value	0.85	0.52	0.18	
Percent change from baseline pruritus VAS				
Adjusted mean % change (SE)	-27.6 (7.64)	-30.3 (7.36)	-35.2 (7.68)	-21.5 (7.66)
Placebo-corrected differences (95%CI)	-6.1 (-27.5, 15.2)	-8.8 (-29.7, 12.2)	-13.8 (-35.2, 7.6)	
p-value	0.57	0.41	0.21	

612 BSA=body surface area; CI=confidence interval; EASI=Eczema Area Severity Index; IGA=Investigator Global

613 Assessment; Q4W=once every 4 weeks; SCORAD=SCORing Atopic Dermatitis; SE=standard error; VAS=Visual

614 Analog Scale.

615 **Table S4. Atopic dermatitis. Mean lebrikizumab pharmacokinetic parameters following**
 616 **single or multiple dose subcutaneous administration**

	Lebrikizumab 125 mg single dose	Lebrikizumab 250 mg single dose	Lebrikizumab 125 mg Q4W
Mean C_{max, wk1} µg/mL (SDv)	17.0 (5.22)	35.6 (10.8)	16.1 (5.19)
Mean C_{min, wk4} µg/mL (SDv)	10.2 (3.00)	21.4 (6.87)	9.15 (2.99)
Mean C_{min, wk8} µg/mL (SDv)	4.59 (2.12)	9.53 (3.53)	13.6 (5.34)
Mean C_{min, wk12} µg/mL (SDv)	2.28 (1.72)	3.77 (2.01)	14.4 (5.69)
t_{1/2, day}	18.5 (5.06)	22.2 (6.18)	20.9 (4.17)

617 C_{max, wk1}=maximum lebrikizumab concentration at Week 1; C_{min, wk4}=observed minimum concentration at Week 4;

618 C_{min, wk8}=observed minimum concentration at Week 8; C_{min, wk12}=observed minimum concentration at Week 12;

619 Q4W=once every 4 weeks; SDv=standard deviation; t_{1/2}=elimination half-life.

620 **Table S5. Atopic dermatitis. Overview of key safety information, Weeks 0 to 20**

	Lebrikizumab 125 mg single dose (n=54)	Lebrikizumab 250 mg single dose (n=52)	Lebrikizumab 125 mg Q4W (n=50)	All lebrikizumab (n=156)	Placebo (n=53)
Patients with at least one AE, n (%)	38 (70)	39 (75)	27 (54)	104 (67)	35 (66)
AE leading to withdrawal from study drug ¹	1 (2)	0	2 (4)	3 (2)	1 (2)
AE leading to dose modification/interruption ²	0	1 (2)	0	1 (1)	0
Patients with at least one SAE, n (%)	3 (6)	0	2 (4)	5 (3)	2 (4)
SAE leading to withdrawal from study drug, n (%)	0	0	1 (2) (Myopathy)	1 (1)	0
AEs of interest/events to be monitored, n (%)					
Adjudicated anaphylaxis per Sampson's criteria ³	0	0	0	0	0
Infections	24 (44)	20 (39)	12 (24)	56 (36)	24 (45)
Injection site reactions	0	0	2 (4)	2 (1)	1 (2)
Malignancies	0	0	0	0	0
Skin infections, n (%)					
Patients with skin infection	6 (11)	5 (10)	3 (6)	14 (9)	9 (17)
Herpes infections, n (%)					
Total number of patients with at least one infection	1 (2)	3 (6)	2 (4)	6 (4)	0
Total number of infections	0	0	0	0	0

related to study drug*					
Herpes simplex	1 (2)	2 (4)	1 (2.0)	4 (3)	0
Herpes zoster	0	1 (2)	1 (2.0)	2 (1)	0
Conjunctival infections, irritations and inflammations, n (%)					
Total number of patients with at least one AE	7 (13)	5 (10)	3 (6)	15 (10)	4 (8)
Total number of events	8	6	4	18	4
Conjunctivitis allergic	4 (7)	2 (4)	2 (4)	8 (5)	0
Conjunctival hyperaemia	0	1 (2)	0	1 (1)	0

621 *Infections related to study drug were investigator-assessed.

622 ¹The following AEs led to withdrawal from study drug: “skin infection” in the 125 mg SD group, “anxiety” and

623 “myopathy” in 125 mg Q4W group, and “atopic dermatitis” in the placebo group.

624 ²One (1%) patient in the 250 mg SD lebrikizumab group experienced an AE (“gastrointestinal viral infection”) that

625 led to dose interruption.

626 ³Members of the lebrikizumab Anaphylaxis Adjudication Committee reviewed blinded data to adjudicate cases as

627 anaphylaxis per Sampson’s criteria.

628 AE=adverse event; Q4W=every 4 weeks; SAE=serious adverse event.

629 **Table S6. Atopic dermatitis. Principal investigator sites**

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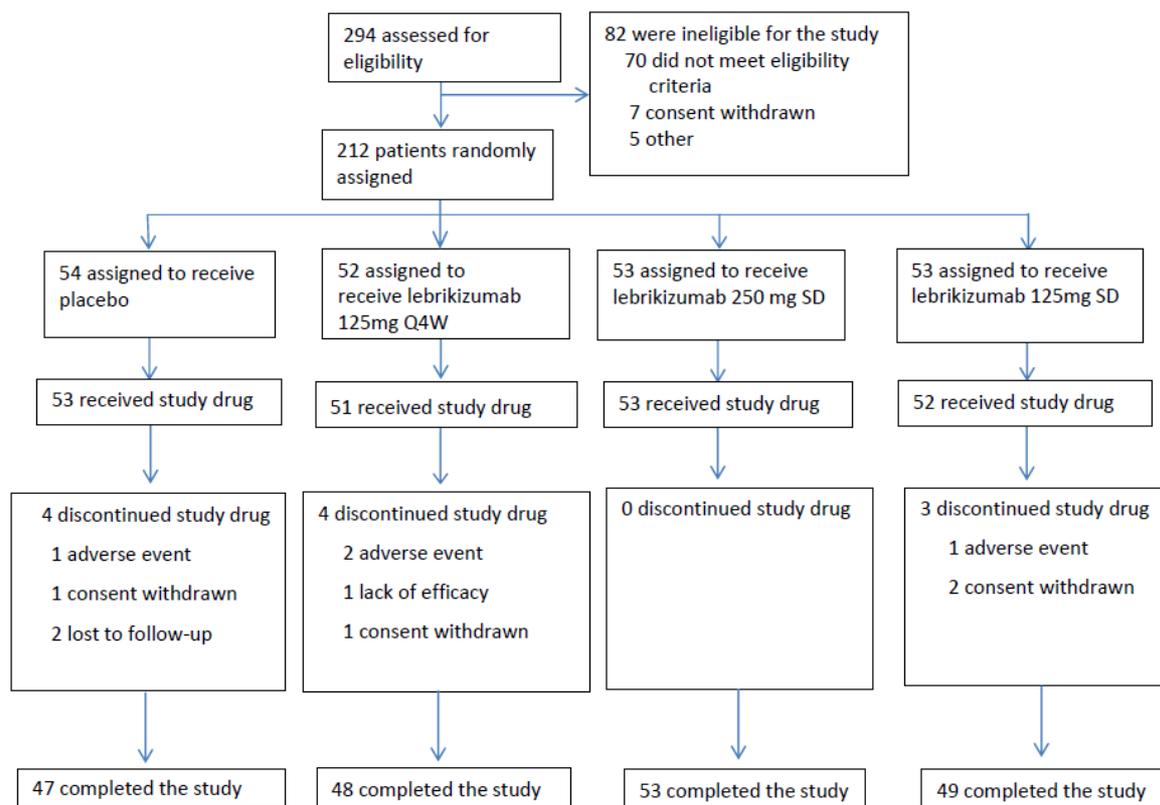
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630 *Indicates the current Principal Investigator. The names of previous Principal Investigators, if any, are also listed.

631 **Figure S1. Atopic dermatitis. Patient disposition for the TREBLE study**

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633 Q4W=once every 4 weeks; SD=single dose.

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