**Conclusions.** As a conclusion, it is possible to say, that phytotherapy plays an important role in prevention and therapy of atherosclerosis. In comparison to synthetic medicines medicinal plants are well-tolerated even in case of long-term administration, do not cause tolerance and have good therapeutic efficacy. Taking into account named advantages of medicinal plants we conclude that creation of new plant origin medicines on the base of biologically active substances of medicinal plants (particularly, obtaining the extracts and their combination) is perspective and important, and may assist improvement of quality of treatment of atherosclerosis and its complications.

## APPROACHES TO LOCAL THERAPY OF PSORIASIS

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**Introduction.** Psoriasis is a chronic relapsing disease that affects mainly the skin and is characterized by increased proliferation of epidermis cells, disturbances of keratinization, inflammation. Its prevalence in the population ranges from 2% to 4%. In the treatment of psoriasis, diet and skin care guidelines are mandatory. Local treatments using ointments containing glucocorticosteroids, salicylic acid, ichthyol, urea, naphthalene oil, propolis, vitamins, etc. are generally recognized. At moderate and severe course of the disease, phototherapy, complex pharmacotherapy, which involves the systematic use of immunosuppressants (glucocorticosteroids, cyclosporine, methotrexate, etc.), vitamins, sedatives, hepatoprotectors, is used. Despite the wide variety of approaches to treatment, high torpidity to therapy leads to a decrease in the level of social adaptation, working capacity, quality of life for patients.

**Aim.** An analysis of the clinical case of using a combined ointment with cyclophosphamide for the treatment of psoriasis.

Materials and methods. Ill L., 19 years old, since childhood suffers from psoriasis. Blisters and drop-shaped lesions are localized mainly on the bending surfaces of the limbs and the shin. During the last three months, the patient received treatment with topical glucocorticosteroids, ointments with salicylic acid, urea, and took courses in phototherapy. After the ineffectiveness of these methods of therapy on its own initiative, the ointment produced by the main line was used as follows: cyclophosphamide (0.2), betamethasone (0.5), salicylic acid (0.25), vitamin A (3.44% of oil solution 5.0), vitamin E (10% oil solution 5.0), lanolin (25.0), vaseline (25.0). The patient applied the ointment to the affected skin twice a day for a month.

**Results and discussions.** The use of ointment for a month led initially to a decrease, subsequently to the disappearance of psoriatic rash, which suggests a remission that lasts 6 months. There was no hyporor hyperpigmentation in place of the former defeat. During the use of the drug, there were no visible visual side effects, including those that are commonly observed with the internal use of cytostatic drugs.

The antipsoratory effect is realized due to the influence of the components of the drug on various parts of the pathogenesis of the disease. Cyclophosphamide and betamethasone have an immunosuppressive effect, salicylic acid in the concentrations used has keratoplasty activity, vitamin A modulates the processes of differentiation of epithelial cells, eliminates hyperkeratosis, vitamin E has antioxidant action, is involved in cell proliferation, and processes of cellular metabolism. However, there is not enough evidence to support the efficacy and safety of the therapy used, the incomprehensible interaction between the individual components, their pharmacokinetics, including systemic absorption from the skin surface. Given the content of the cytostatic and glucocorticosteroid product, high levels of vitamin A require strict regulation of the dose, frequency of use and duration of treatment, strict control of possible side effects, including systemic ones.

**Conclusions.** The use of an ointment containing cyclophosphamide, betamethasone, salicylic acid, vitamins A and E, a patient with psoriasis, led to improvement and remission. In the absence of the desired effect of traditional local pharmacotherapy and phototherapy, the use of topical dosage forms with cyclophosphamide may be an alternative to systemic therapy for psoriasis. Promising and necessary studies on the efficacy and safety of such drugs, studying their pharmacokinetics, determining the dosage regimen and duration of treatment.