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PUBLICATION:	Egyptian Gazette
DATE:	20-March-2016
COUNTRY:	Egypt
CIRCULATION:	60,000
TITLE:	Clearing up psoriasis
PAGE:	05
ARTICLE TYPE:	Agency Generated News
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AVE:	6,096

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Clearing up psoriasis

A **STUDY** has demonstrated that Cosentyx (secukinumab) remains superior to Stelara (ustekinumab) in achieving sustained skin clearance at 52 weeks for adults living with moderate-to-severe psoriasis. These findings were presented for the first time at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) held in Washington, USA.

Cosentyx is the first fully human interleukin-17A inhibitor approved for adults, to treat moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis, and was recently approved for the treatment of psoriatic arthritis and ankylosing spondylitis in the European Union (EU) and the USA.

"Cosentyx continues to demonstrate superior and sustainable efficacy against currently available biologics and is a tested first-line treatment option for adult patients with moderate-to-severe psoriasis," said Vasant Narasimhan, Chief Medical Officer, at one of the pharmaceutical companies. "Cosentyx has the potential to give more people than ever before, who suffer from psoriasis, the benefit of long-lasting skin clearance."

The ultimate aim of psoriasis treatment is clear skin, and the Psoriasis Area Severity Index (PASI) 90 response is considered an important measure of treatment success.

Meeting all primary and secondary endpoints at Weeks Four, 16 and 52, Cosentyx has demonstrated it remains consistently superior to Stelara in achieving and sustaining a PASI90 response (76.2 per cent vs. 60.6 per cent ; $P<0.0001$), and is significantly better in achieving (PASI)100 (clear skin) response (45.9 per cent vs. 35.8 per cent ; $P=0.0103$) at 52 weeks.

Psoriasis is a common, non-contagious, autoimmune disease that affects up to 3 per cent of the world's population.

Plaque psoriasis is the most common form of the disease and appears as raised, red patches covered with a silvery white buildup of dead skin cells.