

## Fast and Furious: A Look at the Trajectory of JAK Inhibitors in Dermatology

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JAK inhibitors are having their day. These immune modulating medications, which interfere with signals in the body thought to lead to inflammation, were first approved in 2011 by the FDA. This first approval, ruxolitinib, was indicated for myeloproliferative neoplasms (blood cancers). Then came tofacitinib, approved in 2012 for rheumatoid arthritis, followed by baricitinib, for the same disease, in 2018.

In 2021, JAK inhibitors exploded onto the dermatologic space, with the FDA approval for ruxolitinib cream, this time for atopic dermatitis. Since then, 6 JAK inhibitors have become available for a number of different dermatologic disorders, for everything from vitiligo and alopecia areata to atopic dermatitis and psoriasis.

One of JAK inhibitors' rock stars, ruxolitinib, was again approved in 2022, now for the repigmentation of vitiligo. Ruxolitinib, coming into a barren space of options for patients with this condition, with only a depigmentation regimen available before, is now offering patients exciting hope, with numerous studies showing significant improvement in repigmentation with the use of this medication. Nanette B. Silverberg, MD, FAAD, conference chair for Revolutionizing Vitiligo, says, "Impressive progress has been made in managing and treating vitiligo within the past few years, and we believe this is just the beginning."

Next up, baricitinib and ritlecitinib, the first 2 FDA-approved drugs approved for alopecia areata in 2022 and 2023, respectively. Recently, in an article posted on the American Academy of Dermatology website, Brett King, MD, PhD, FAAD, and conference chair for this year's Revolutionizing Alopecia Areata, said, "these medicines have forever changed alopecia areata." Physicians have been reporting regrowth of patients' hair with both of these medications, and with nearly 7 million American affected by this disorder, this is good news indeed.

Want to learn more about these JAK inhibitors and others, plus what's on the horizon for new approvals for these conditions, and more? Sign up for the Revolutionizing, Alopecia Areata, Vitiligo, and Eczema conferences, taking place June 8-10, in Chicago, Illinois. Don't miss out!