Real-world evidence for the use of K.Vita in the UK

Authors

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Introduction

K.Vita is a unique patented strawberry-flavoured medical food containing 80:20 C10:C8 triglycerides, prescribable in the UK for the dietary management of drug-resistant epilepsy (DRE) from 3 years of age.

Following pre-clinical work and a feasibility trial, (1,2,3,4), real-world evidence is being gathered to further inform the clinical application and development of K.Vita.

Dietary guidance

Use K.Vita alongside a normal, unrestricted diet or standard enteral feed, minimising high-sugar foods and beverages to optimise nutritional intake and balance the additional energy from K.Vita. A daily amount of up to 2 packs (240ml) of K.Vita, divided into three or four equal servings, is introduced incrementally over at least four weeks according to gastrointestinal tolerance and observed efficacy.

Method

The project is registered as a service evaluation at each participating centre in the UK. Dietitians enter anonymised patient data via Microsoft Forms at baseline, three, six and twelve months, after starting K.Vita, from clinical reviews and reports from patients and/or caregivers.

Results

As it can take up to and over three months to achieve a stable daily intake of K.Vita, data are reported for individuals taking K.Vita alongside a normal diet or standard tube feed at registration (n = 83) for six (n=22) and twelve months (n=6) only. Those recorded as taking K.Vita as part of a ketogenic diet are excluded (n = 32)

Registrants

Baseline registration (Up to 01,08.23) - n =83 n =22 (17 DR Glut 1 DS)

Taken K.Vita with normal diet/ standard tube feed for 6 months n=22 (17 DRE, 5 Glut1 DS)

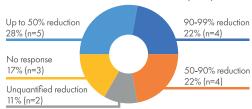
Taken K.Vita with normal diet/ standard tube feed for 12 months n=6 (4 DRE, 2 Glut 1 DS)

Discontinued
K.Vita before 12
months.
n=19

Data not yet recorded or unavailable. n=36



Seizure Reduction at 6 months (n=18)



Reduction in movement disorder in Glut 1 DS at 6 months (n=5)



Seizure reduction at 12 months (n=5)



Of those with Glut1DS, reduction in movement disorder was up to 50% in 1/2 (50%) whilst 1/2 had a reduction of 50-90%.

Reasons for discontinuation of K.Vita



Other outcomes reported by patients and/or caregivers after K.Vita was taken with a normal diet for 12 months

Improved behaviour, energy levels and focus

Previous, debilitating, migraine-like headaches have resolved. Parents and the school have noticed improvements in speech and confidence



Enhanced concentration, cognition and processing speed

Unable to comply with the ketogenic diet. Speech and exercise tolerance improved on K.Vita

Seizure-free for 6 months; more energy and better concentration

Conclusion

K.Vita can be an effective, simple, and well tolerated approach to the dietary management of DRE and Glut1DS. K.Vita presents an alternative option to the ketogenic diet where this proves unsuitable or appropriate support is unavailable.

References

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