

ResearchOne Data Service, 2015/16 – YHAHSN-Funded Projects

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Psoriasis and Cardiovascular Disease

Psoriasis is a common skin disease affecting approximately 1 million people in the UK. It may also be associated with a disabling disease of the joints called psoriatic arthritis. Recent evidence indicates that psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis (herein referred to as psoriatic disease) may increase the risk of cardiovascular disease. This association is complex and may relate in part to an increased prevalence of adverse lifestyle factors including smoking, obesity and diet. Despite this it has been suggested that chronic active inflammation observed in psoriatic disease has an adverse effect on blood vessel function which may result in cardiovascular disease and premature death.

The ResearchOne database provides an opportunity to examine the relationship between psoriatic disease and cardiovascular disease. By comparing patients with a diagnosis of psoriasis to similar patients without a diagnosis of psoriasis we will examine the relationship between psoriatic disease and cardiovascular disease. This will provide an opportunity to identify patients with the greatest risk of developing heart disease and to adopt preventative strategies to reduce this risk. It is hoped that this will provide evidence to support development of national guidelines relating to the holistic care of patients with psoriatic disease.