

Philips launches wearable device for psoriasis

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Philips has marked World Psoriasis Day with the launch of Philips BlueControl 2.0, the second generation of its innovative wearable medical device¹ that uses UV-free blue LED light to control symptoms of mild to moderate cases of plaque psoriasis. After its successful launch in the Netherlands, Germany and the UK end of last year, and France earlier this year, the new generation of this clinically tested, medical device has been developed based on user insights and feedback. Philips BlueControl 2.0 is now also available in Denmark, Sweden, and Finland and will be introduced in the coming months to Poland, Belgium, Austria, Switzerland and Hong Kong. New markets like Israel and Italy will follow in the course of 2016.

Blue light addresses plaque symptoms by inducing natural processes in the skin. It helps skin to renew itself properly by slowing the accelerated production of skin cells associated with plaque psoriasis. With its anti-inflammatory properties, blue light controls unregulated inflammation and can alleviate the symptoms of affected skin. Philips BlueControl is a gentle, UV-free phototherapy device that gives patients the clinically proven benefits of blue LED light without interrupting their normal daily routines. The visible light induces natural processes in the skin to significantly reduce symptoms such as redness, scaling and thickness.

The product has been developed to be easily integrated into a patient's daily routine and reduces the need for physician visits. Worn simply by adjusting a strap on affected arms, legs, elbows and knees, the UV-free blue LED light therapy is enabled by 40 high-intensity blue LEDs with tailored light settings. Designed with the patient in mind, the battery-driven device can be used anytime and anywhere.

This second generation device features the following improvements: a larger treatment area (approx. 25 percent), a more comfortable fixation strap, a thinner device and a longer battery life (lasting for four treatments in a row).

Philips conducted two clinical trials in partnership with the University Hospital of Aachen to investigate the efficacy and safety of Philips BlueControl to reduce the symptoms of psoriasis vulgaris. In the second long-term trial, patients were treated for

twelve weeks. 84 percent of patients showed an improvement in plaque symptoms (thickness, redness and scaling) compared to the beginning of the trial. In some cases, complete clearance of the plaque was observed. 83 percent of patients rated the usability and comfort of the device as ideal or excellent.