

# Impact of CKD-aP

- Pruritus/itch
- Sleep
- Quality of life
- Time in treatment
- Depression
- Anxiety



**Ask patients **proactively**  
about the itch**



# Itch Severity and Quality of Life Assessment Tools

- Worst Itch Numerical Rating Scale (WI-NRS)

Please rate the itching severity due to your psoriasis by circling the number that best describes your worst level of itching in the past 24 hours.

0    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10

0 = No itching

10 = Worst itch imaginable



# Worst Itch Numerical Rating Scale (WI-NRS)

Please rate the itching severity due to your psoriasis by circling the number that best describes your worst level of itching in the past 24 hours.

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0 = No itching

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- Very severe itching
- Before, during, and after dialysis
- Antihistamines
- Gabapentin

9/10

No improvement

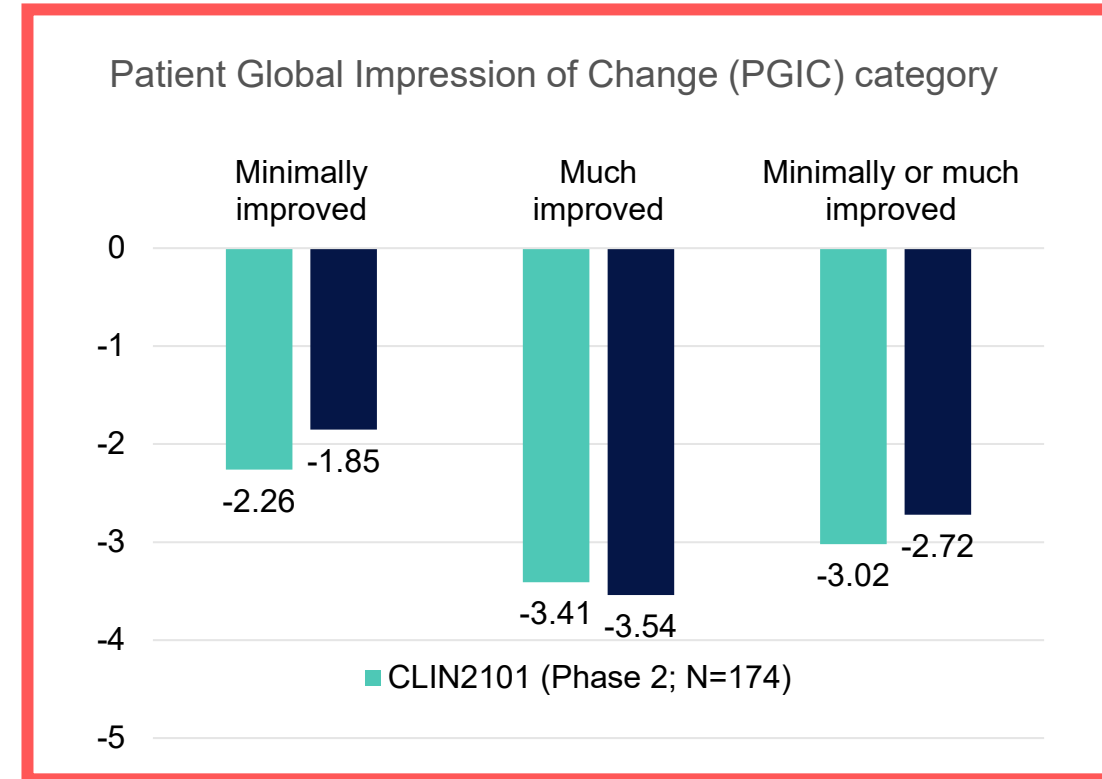


# Kappa-Opioid Receptor Agonist Therapy in CKD-aP

## Difelikefalin

- KALM-1 and KALM-2 trials showed a **clinically meaningful improvement** in **itch intensity** and **itch-related QoL** in patients with CKD-aP undergoing hemodialysis treated with difelikefalin
  - KALM-1 and KALM-2 pooled analysis demonstrated significantly greater achievement of  $\geq 3$ -point WI-NRS reduction with difelikefalin (51.1%) versus placebo (35.2%;  $P < 0.001$ ) at week 12

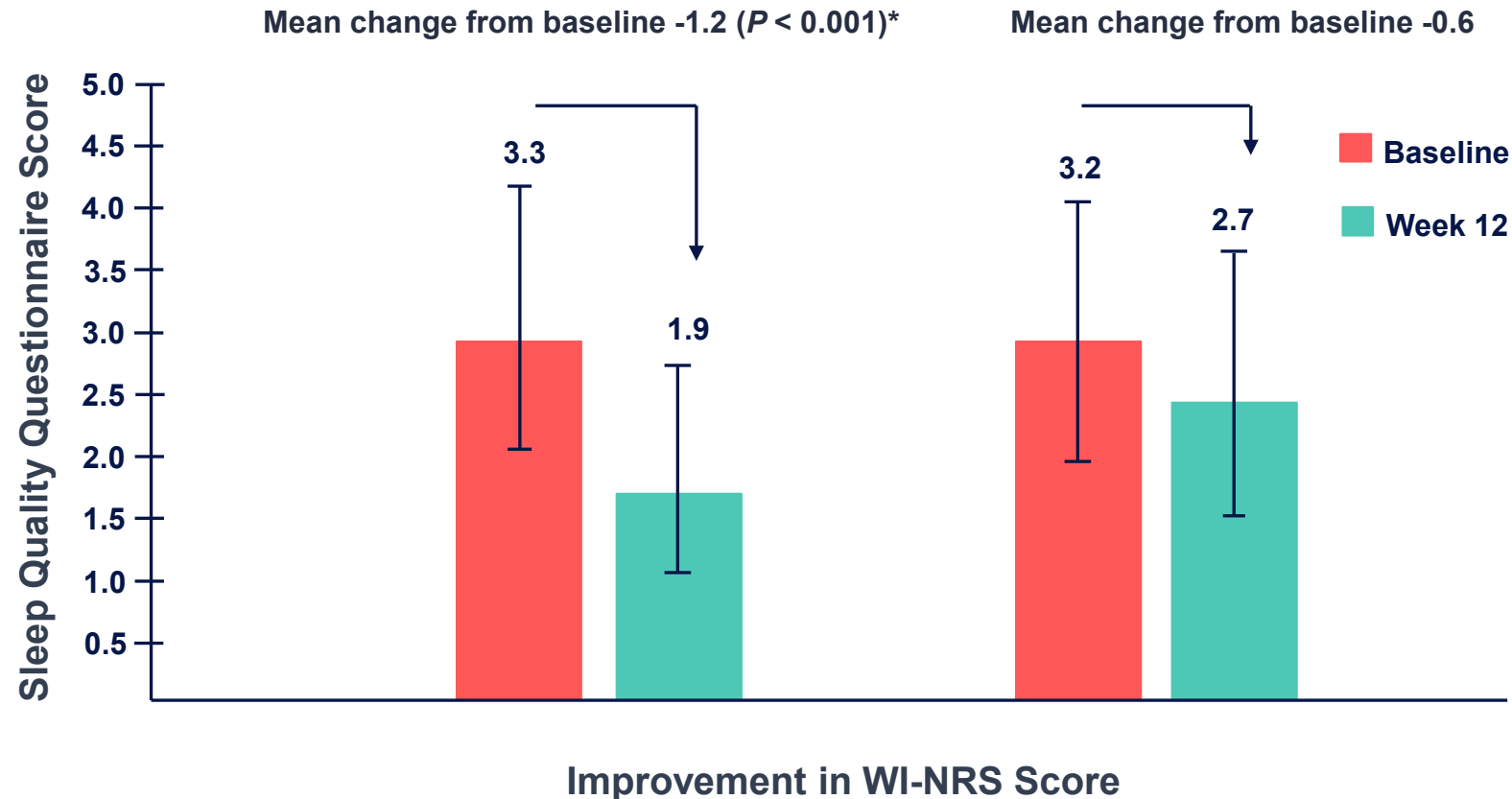
Reduction in WI-NRS score according to change perceived by patients



**COMPLETE SYMPTOM  
IMPROVEMENT ACHIEVED  
WITH DIFELIKEFALIN**



# Improvements in 5-D Itch Sleep Disability Question Score in Patients With vs Without a Clinically Meaningful Reduction in WI-NRS Score



\*Improvements in mean 5-D itch sleep disability question score for patients with  $\geq 3$ -point WI-NRS score reduction vs  $< 3$ -point reduction. WI-NRS, worse itch intensity numerical rating score.

Ahdoot R, et al. *Kidney Int Rep.* 2022;7(2):S258.



# Worst Itch Numerical Rating Scale (WI-NRS)

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- Very severe itching
- Initiated treatment with difelikefalin
- **>3-point improvement**

9/10





# KOR Agonist Therapy

- Consistently effective in patients with CKD-aP
- Patient adherence benefits
  - Convenience of administration
  - Consistent dosing
  - Reduced patient burden

Improved Outcomes



# Shared Decision-Making in KOR Agonist Therapy



# Take-Home Message

- Importance of a comprehensive, **patient-centric** approach
- Early diagnosis
- Patient education
- Treat patients using **new therapeutic interventions**

Improve Patients' Quality of Life



# Take-Home Message

- Screen patients **proactively** for itch
- Treat patients using **new therapeutic interventions**

Improve Patients' Quality of Life

