

Azithromycin for sarcoidosis cough: an open-label exploratory clinical trial

Fraser SD, et al. ERJ Open Res. 2020 Nov; 6(4):00534-2020.

Sarcoidosis is a chronic inflammatory disease due to abnormal *collection of inflammatory cells* (macrophages) which form lumps known as '*granuloma*'. It can occur in any organ but is commonly seen in lungs or lymph nodes.

- Non-controlled, open-label clinical trial of azithromycin 250 mg once daily for 3 months was conducted in patients with pulmonary sarcoidosis who reported a chronic cough.
- Twenty patients completed the trial. The median number of coughs in 24 hours was 228 at baseline, 122 at 1 month, and 81 at 3 months.
- The median reduction in cough count at 3 months was 49.6%. There were improvements in all patient-reported outcomes.

In people with chronic sarcoidosis cough, 3 months of azithromycin (250 mg daily) treatment led to improvements in a range of cough metrics.

Azithromycin was well tolerated.