Limitations

The study was not without its share of limitations.

1. Future research should provide results from the viewpoint of different parties to allow interpretations and conclusions from multiple aspects.

2. Psoriasis being a chronic disease should have been followed up for a longer duration of time for which implementation of more complex models like Markov Models can be used and would provide a better view on the cost effective analysis.

3. With the advent and widespread use of biologicals in the treatment of psoriasis, cost and effectiveness comparison of biologicals with the other treatment regimens becomes imperative. Due to lack of a sizable study population for biologicals this could not be done in the current study.
Conclusion:

The present study was carried out to assess the economic and clinical impact of psoriasis on patients who are on various drugs used in the treatment of psoriasis. The economic burden of psoriasis during the study period may not be high, but as a chronic disease, the extent of economic burden psoriasis generates during the life time of a patient may become extensive. Salient features deduced from the study were:

• Majority of the patients belonged to the 40-60 years age group

• At the end of twelve months, there was an overall significant improvement in the PASI and DLQI scores in the study population.

The cost effectiveness analysis showed methotrexate to be more cost effective as compared to bath PUVA for moderate to severe psoriasis.

The cost of illness analysis showed the extent of burden the patients bear with various treatments wherein topical was shown to be the lowest and bath PUVA being the highest.

This study enlightened on the awareness aspect of the disease wherein information leaflets helped the patients in understanding the disease in a better manner.