

Supplementary information

Supplementary table 2. Studies reporting the patient-perceived benefit of topical nedocromil sodium versus placebo, included in the meta-analysis.

Reference	Setting	Sample age (years) Mean (range)	Allergen, time of year	Patient inclusion criteria	Patient exclusion criteria	Active treatment	Length of trial	Assessment of subjective symptoms	Number that preferred placebo	Number that preferred active
Blumenthal 1992 ²⁰	Multi-centre study, US	32 (12–62)	Ragweed, Aug 1976	Previous seasonal allergic conjunctivitis, skin test reaction to ragweed	Childbearing age, not using contraception, absent or minimal symptoms during previous ragweed season, not using medication for seasonal allergic conjunctivitis, evidence of perennial allergic conjunctivitis, other ocular disease	Nedocromil sodium 2%, benzalkonium chloride 0.01%, disodium edetate 0.05%, sodium chloride 0.55%, purified water	8 weeks	Patient diary cards	26/71	36/69
Leino 1990 ²¹	5 centres in Finland	22 (7–60)	Not stated	History of seasonal allergic conjunctivitis to birch pollen for the past two seasons. Patients with concomitant rhinitis included	Additional eye diseases, contact lens wearers, systemic or topical corticosteroids or systemic antihistamines, hyposensitization in the last year. Pregnant or lactating women	Nedocromil sodium 2%, benzalkonium chloride 0.01%, disodium edetate 0.05%, sodium chloride 0.55%, purified water	4–6 weeks	Patient daily diary cards	22/62 ^a	37/64 ^a
Melamed 1994 ²²	Multi-centre study, US	32 (13–60)	Grass pollen, Apr–Sep (mostly May–Jul)	History of seasonal allergic conjunctivitis for the past two seasons, skin test reaction to ragweed, patients receiving immunotherapy included	Women of childbearing age not using contraception, asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic during the previous ragweed pollen season, not requiring medications to control their allergic conjunctivitis, perennial conjunctivitis, other conjunctival pathology	Nedocromil sodium 2%, benzalkonium chloride 0.01%, disodium edetate 0.05%, sodium chloride 0.55%, purified water	9 weeks	Patient daily diary cards	14/38	26/42
Moller 1994 ²³	4 paediatric clinics in Sweden	12 (6–16)	Ragweed, Aug 1980	History of seasonal allergic conjunctivitis for the past two seasons to birch pollen, confirmed by RAST test and/or a positive skin-prick test	Other eye disorders, contact lens wearers, known sensitivity to constituents of active or placebo drops, use of other ophthalmic medications, systemic corticosteroids or antihistamines, hyposensitization treatment during the last year	Nedocromil sodium 2%, benzalkonium chloride 0.01%, disodium edetate 0.05%, sodium chloride 0.55%	4 weeks	Daily diary cards completed by the patient or parent	49/70	52/76
Stockwell 1994 ²⁴	Bristol Eye Hospital, UK	>6	Feb 1983–Apr 1984	Symptomatic hay fever conjunctivitis	Additional eye disease, contact lens wearers, systemic steroids, pregnant or lactating women	Nedocromil sodium 2%, benzalkonium chloride 0.01%, edetate sodium (EDTA) 0.05%,	4 weeks	Interview and patient diary cards	19/32	24/32

^aIntention-to-treat analysis. RAST = radioallergosorbent test.