

AE, n (%)	Dutasteride (n=250)	Finasteride (n=285)	Proportion difference (90% CI)	Equivalence region ( $\pm 5\%$ )		Equivalence <i>p</i> -value*	Equivalence?
				-5%	5%		
				Favours finasteride      Favours dutasteride			
Any AE	19 (7.6)	30 (10.5)	2.9 (-1.1, 7.0)			0.201	No
Any AE of special interest	4 (1.6)	3 (1.1)	-0.5 (-2.2, 1.1)			<0.001 <sup>¶</sup>	Yes
Sexual AEs	4 (1.6)	3 (1.1)	-0.5 (-2.2, 1.1)			<0.001 <sup>¶</sup>	Yes
Decreased libido	3 (1.2)	2 (0.7)	-0.5 (-1.9, 0.9)			<0.001 <sup>¶</sup>	Yes
Impotence/erectile dysfunction	1 (0.4)	0 (0.0)	-0.4 (-1.1, 0.3)			<0.001 <sup>¶</sup>	Yes
Other sexual dysfunction	0 (0.0)	1 (0.4)	0.4 (-0.2, 0.9)			<0.001 <sup>¶</sup>	Yes
Any other AE	17 (6.8)	27 (9.5)	2.7 (-1.2, 6.5)			0.162	No
Allergic reactions/swelling of lips and face/rash/urticaria	1 (0.4)	2 (0.7)	0.3 (-0.7, 1.3)			<0.001 <sup>¶</sup>	Yes
Back pain	1 (0.4)	0 (0.0)	-0.4 (-1.1, 0.3)			<0.001 <sup>¶</sup>	Yes
Diarrhoea	1 (0.4)	2 (0.7)	0.3 (-0.7, 1.3)			<0.001 <sup>¶</sup>	Yes
Dyspepsia	1 (0.4)	1 (0.4)	0.0 (-0.9, 0.8)			<0.001 <sup>¶</sup>	Yes
Fatigue	1 (0.4)	0 (0.0)	-0.4 (-1.1, 0.3)			<0.001 <sup>¶</sup>	Yes
Other <sup>†</sup>	12 (4.8)	24 (8.4)	3.6 (0.1, 7.1)			0.259	No
Skin disorders <sup>‡</sup>	11 (4.4)	17 (6.0)	1.6 (-1.6, 4.7)			0.036 <sup>  </sup>	Yes
Any SAE	0 (0.0)	2 (0.7)	0.7 (-0.1, 1.5)			<0.001 <sup>¶</sup>	Yes
Serious cardiovascular event (e.g. cardiac failure, stroke)	0 (0.0)	1 (0.4)	0.4 (-0.2, 0.9)			<0.001 <sup>¶</sup>	Yes
Other SAE <sup>§</sup>	0 (0.0)	1 (0.4)	0.4 (-0.2, 0.9)			<0.001 <sup>¶</sup>	Yes

**Supplementary Fig. 4.** On-treatment AEs reported for dutasteride and finasteride among patients prescribed the recommended doses of dutasteride (0.5 mg daily) and finasteride (1 mg daily). CI: confidence interval, AE: adverse event, SAE: serious adverse event. \**p*-values were estimated from two one-sided tests to determine whether the 90% confidence interval for the differences in proportions were within the equivalence region, defined as  $\pm 5\%$ . *p*-values <0.05 indicate equivalence between treatments. <sup>†</sup>Other AEs were reported as open-ended responses and included skin disorders, herpes simplex, shoulder pain/herniated disc, ureter stone, abdominal wall lipoma, fever, gastroesophageal reflux and transient ischemic attack. <sup>‡</sup>Skin disorders included acne, eczema, erythema, erythematous papules, epidermal cyst, folliculitis, itching, psoriasis, rash, seborrheic dermatitis, seborrheic keratosis and tinea pedis. <sup>§</sup>Other SAEs included abdominal pain, acute colitis and schwannoma on the left neck, all of which resulted in hospitalizations. <sup>||</sup>Significant at the 0.05 level. <sup>¶</sup>Significant at the 0.001 level.