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## **SYSTANE PRO Preservative-Free Demonstrates Clinically Comparable Dry Eye Symptom Relief to MIEBO (perfluorohexyloctane ophthalmic solution) in a Prospective, Randomized Clinical Study**

- **SYSTANE PRO Preservative-Free (PF) demonstrated non-inferiority to MIEBO<sup>^</sup> (perfluorohexyloctane ophthalmic solution) in relieving dry eye symptoms at two weeks and one month<sup>1,\*</sup>**
- **Findings provide Eye Care Professionals with comparative clinical evidence supporting SYSTANE PRO PF for patients with dry eye<sup>1</sup>**

**FORT WORTH, October 2, 2026** – Alcon (SIX/NYSE: ALC), the global leader in eye care dedicated to helping people see brilliantly, today announced new investigator-initiated clinical data demonstrating that SYSTANE<sup>®</sup> PRO Preservative-Free (PF), an Alcon brand, provided clinically comparable dry eye symptom relief to MIEBO<sup>^</sup> (perfluorohexyloctane ophthalmic solution), meeting the study's primary endpoint of non-inferiority at both two weeks and one month based on Ocular Surface Disease Index (OSDI) scores.<sup>1,\*</sup> The findings were presented at the American Academy of Optometry 2026 Annual Meeting (AAO; Anaheim; September 30-October 3).

“These results provide Eye Care Professionals (ECPs) with meaningful comparative evidence when considering treatment options for patients with dry eye disease,” said Anna Tichenor, <sup>\*\*\*</sup> OD, PhD, FAAO, Assistant Professor and Chief of the IUSO Dry Eye Clinic, and lead investigator of the study. “Based on these findings, I can confidently recommend SYSTANE PRO PF as a first-line treatment option for patients in my practice with dry eye symptoms, particularly given the clinically comparable dry eye symptom relief to prescription perfluorohexyloctane demonstrated in this study. For ECPs with patients facing cost or insurance-related access barriers, Systane Pro PF may offer an accessible approach to dry eye symptom relief.”

Dry eye disease (DED) is one of the most common ocular surface disorders, affecting an estimated 39 million people in the United States and 1.6 billion globally.<sup>2,3</sup> Common symptoms can include dryness, irritation, burning and fluctuating vision, which can interfere with everyday activities such as reading, night driving, using digital devices, working and socializing.<sup>4-6</sup> DED can also affect contact lens wear and may impact a patient's ability to undergo cataract or refractive surgery.<sup>4-6</sup> Yet only

13% of patients with DED feel their condition is well-managed, underscoring the need for effective treatment options that can help address the diverse needs of people living with dry eye disease.<sup>7,†</sup>

This head-to-head study<sup>\*\*\*</sup> was a prospective, randomized, double-masked, multicenter clinical study that evaluated 256 dry eye patients with moderate-to-severe symptoms.<sup>1</sup> Patients were randomized to SYSTANE PRO PF or perfluorohexyloctane four times daily in both eyes and were assessed at baseline, two weeks and one month.<sup>1</sup> The primary endpoint evaluated non-inferiority of SYSTANE PRO PF versus perfluorohexyloctane on OSDI symptom scores, using a prespecified non-inferiority margin of 7.3 units.<sup>1</sup>

SYSTANE PRO PF demonstrated clinically meaningful dry eye symptom relief while proving to be non-inferior to perfluorohexyloctane.<sup>1,\*</sup> Both treatment groups achieved statistically significant and clinically meaningful reductions in OSDI symptoms ( $p \leq 0.001$ ) at two weeks and sustained through one month.<sup>1,\*</sup>

SYSTANE PRO PF is available over the counter (OTC) in the U.S., Canada and other markets. MIEBO<sup>^</sup> is available by prescription in the U.S., while perfluorohexyloctane is offered OTC in certain markets outside of the U.S.

“These findings underscore the strength of SYSTANE PRO PF, backed by a rigorous, independently conducted randomized clinical study,” said Sarika Sood, Vice President of Global Medical Affairs and Health Economics and Outcomes Research at Alcon. “The results add to the growing body of evidence supporting SYSTANE PRO PF and reinforce the strength of Alcon’s comprehensive dry eye portfolio.”

SYSTANE PRO PF is formulated to provide sustained hydration, restore tear film stability<sup>††</sup> and protect against further irritation of dry eyes.<sup>8,9</sup> To learn more about Alcon’s dry eye offerings, visit [systane.myalcon.com](https://systane.myalcon.com).

### **About Alcon**

Alcon helps people see brilliantly. As the global leader in eye care with a heritage spanning over 75 years, we offer the broadest portfolio of products to enhance sight and improve people’s lives. Our Surgical and Vision Care products touch the lives of more than 260 million people in over 140 countries and territories each year living with conditions like cataracts, glaucoma, retinal diseases and refractive errors. Our more than 25,000 associates are enhancing the quality of life through innovative products, partnerships with Eye Care Professionals and programs that advance access to quality eye care. Learn more at [www.alcon.com](https://www.alcon.com).

### **About SYSTANE PRO PF**

SYSTANE lubricant eye drops have been clinically proven to reduce the symptoms of dry eye, providing fast, long-lasting relief and comfort. SYSTANE is the #1 global consumer brand of artificial tears. The unique formulation of SYSTANE PRO PF works to deliver long-lasting dry eye symptom relief for all types of dry eyes.

<sup>^</sup>Trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

<sup>\*</sup>Based on a prospective, randomized, controlled, double-masked, multicenter non-inferiority clinical trial comparing mean change in OSDI scores from baseline at 2 weeks and 1 month. Between-group difference was -2.7 at 2 weeks and -3.0 at 1 month,  $p=0.004$  and  $p=0.01$  respectively. QID dosing. N=256.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Supported by an independent research grant from Alcon.

†Based on an online survey conducted by Chronic Dry Eye from February to April 2021 among 415 responders who reported being diagnosed with chronic dry eye. 44% reported a severe level of chronic dry eye (i.e., levels 3 and 4).

††In vitro data; Based on Systane Complete formulation.

## References

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