

Treatment of patients with nephrogenic systemic fibrosis (NSF) with imatinib mesylate (Glivec).  
An open label clinical trial among patients with moderate to severe NSF.

Our study ended prematurely.

Among 25 patients only 4 patients were recruited.

The treatment start dose of imatinib mesylate was 400 mg/day. In two of the patients the dose of imatinib mesylate was reduced to 200 mg/day after 2 weeks and in 1 patient to 100 mg/day.

Two patients were treated for 24 weeks, one patient for 16 weeks. The fourth patient discontinued the treatment after 4 weeks because of a severe infection.

The 3 patients that had treatment for 24 weeks and 16 weeks a tethering of their skin was observed; the modified Rodnan score was reduced: 24 to 20, 24 to 17 and 21 to 14. No improvement in joint mobility was observed.

Our study ended prematurely. Only few patients could be recruited to the study and it of course limits the conclusion and interpretation of our observations.