



## **New drug helps improve quality of life**

FILE PICTURE

A STUDY on how ustekinumab helps improve the quality of life and overcome sexual difficulties of those with psoriasis involved 1,230 patients from the US and Canada. They had moderate to severe psoriasis.

The results of the study were published in the *Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology* in May.

Sufferers of this non-contagious skin disease are often faced with anxiety and depression.

The average scores of depression and anxiety reported by these patients are comparable to, or worse than, patients diagnosed with breast cancer.

The study also found that ustekinumab significantly improves symptoms of anxiety, depression and skin-related quality of life in patients with moderate-to-severe psoriasis, while effectively clearing the lesions.

The public forum, *Living with Psoriasis – Local and Global Perspectives*, organised by Psoriasis Association of Singapore, addressed issues such as living with and managing psoriasis in Singapore.

Dr Lim Kar Seng, of the National Skin Centre, and Professor Peter Foley, from Melbourne, spoke at the forum.