



ACNE, ROSACEA, AND RELATED DISORDERS (INCLUDING HIDRADENITIS SUPPURATIVA)

TREATMENT OF RHINOPHYMA WITH LASER ERBIUM

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Background: Rhinophyma is a benign, disfiguring disorder of the nose which presents the end stage of acne rosacea, and can also occasionally result in large disfigurement. We describe a case of a lady treated with Erbium laser with excellent cosmetic improvement.

Case report: A 49-years old women was presented in the clinic and diagnosed with rhinophyma. She has two prominent noduses emerging from the nose, 6 cm and 4 cm in diameter respectively. We decided to perform rhinophyma excision with erbium laser. The procedure was performed under local anesthesia using 1% lidocaine with 1:100 000 epinephrine. The perimeter of the excision is marked taking care to leave 5mm of tissue along the alar margin to prevent scar contraction and alar notching. The procedure is carried out with minimal bleeding. After the fine sculpturing of the rhinophyma, the wound is covered with neomycin spray and nonadhesive dressing. The acid fucidic cream was placed on the plaque for 1 week. The patient achieved marked cosmetic improvement, with no complications. Post-operative healing time was 7 to 10 days.

Key message: Erbium laser provides very accurate tissue ablation and allows the sculpturing of the hypertrophied areas, offering the advantage of minimal blood loss with good cosmetic results, with a very short healing period as shown in our case.

