



AESTHETIC AND COSMETIC DERMATOLOGY (LASERS SEPARATE CATEGORY)

## DERMATOPOROSIS, A PREVALENT SKIN CONDITION AFFECTING THE ELDERLY : ONE-YEAR FOLLOW-UP OF PATIENTS TREATED WITH RETINALDEHYDE AND HYALURONATE FRAGMENTS

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Background: Dermatoporosis describes a skin state with premature and accelerated ageing process that poses clinical problems beyond esthetic considerations. A study performed in a French population reported a prevalence of dermatoporosis of 37.5% in subjects older than 65 years with female-to-male ratio of 3:2. Our scoring system consists of four stages, from the skin atrophy with senile purpura, pseudoscars and superficial excoriations, to the late stage showing large areas of skin necrosis with potential lethal complications usually leading to limb amputation.

Observations: We followed 5 patients with dermatoporosis stage I and II over a period of 12 months. They were treated twice a day with a topical formulation containing hyaluronate fragments of intermediate size and retinaldehyde. The skin thickness was measured by ultrasonography before and after treatment. We observed a significant increase in the skin thickness of these patients leading to an improvement in the dermatoporosis score. We also noticed a dramatic decrease in the number of purpuric lesions after treatment with hyaluronate fragments and retinaldehyde.

Key message: Dermatoporosis has a high prevalence in the elderly and poses a real problem to this population. Thus, it is important that dermatologists and other health professionals including geriatricians transmit this information to their patients in order to help them to delay as much as possible the onset of an excessive skin ageing, and are aware of the best strategies to treat the patients affected by this condition.

