



DERMATOLOGICAL SURGERY

EFFICACY AND SAFETY OF INTRALESIONAL MEASLES-MUMPS-RUBELLA VACCINE IN THE TREATMENT OF RECALCITRANT VIRAL WARTS

S Yang⁽¹⁾ - A H Zhang⁽²⁾ - K L Tan⁽²⁾ - B Lim⁽²⁾ - S H Chua⁽²⁾ - A Yong⁽²⁾

National University Hospital, Dermatology, Singapore, Singapore⁽¹⁾ - National Skin Centre, Dermatology, Singapore, Singapore⁽²⁾

Introduction: In some immunocompetent patients, viral warts may be recalcitrant to conventional therapies. Intralesional immunotherapy using the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine (IL-MMR) is a promising novel modality in treating such warts.

Objective: To assess the efficacy and safety of intralesional Measles-Mumps-Rubella vaccine in the treatment of recalcitrant viral warts.

Methods and materials: Retrospectively, data was obtained from patients who underwent IL-MMR therapy from 2015 to 2016 at the National Skin Centre, Singapore. Standard treatment protocol involved topical anaesthesia with EMLA 5%, paring of the wart followed by IL-MMR injection. Treatment was repeated 2-4 weeks apart.

Results: 26 immunocompetent patients with viral warts who failed conventional therapies (cryotherapy, carbon dioxide laser ablation) received immunotherapy with IL-MMR. 14 were males, 12 were females. Their ages range from 8 to 73 with a median of 40.5. 20 were Chinese, 1 was Malay, and 1 was Indian.

Complete clearance of viral warts was seen in 65.4% (n=17). Partial clearance, as defined by reduction in viral wart size without complete clearance was seen in 26.9% (n=7). 7.7% (n=2) showed no improvement.

For patients with complete clearance, a median of 5 treatments (range 3-10) was required. For patients with partial clearance, a median of 6 treatments (range 3-10) was documented. The 2 patients who showed no improvement had undergone only 2 treatments each which was discontinued for personal reasons.

5 patients reported pain after the injections with a median pain score of 2 out of 10 (range 1-5). There were no adverse effects like local swelling and secondary infection reported.

Conclusion: For immunocompetent patients with recalcitrant viral warts, immunotherapy with IL-MMR may offer additional therapeutic response including complete clearance with minimal side-effects in a majority of such patients.

