



DERMATOLOGICAL SURGERY

PULSE DYE LASER TO TREAT THE ABNORMAL SCAR AFTER WIDE LOCAL EXCISION OF DERMATOFIBROSARCOMA PROTUBERANS

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Backgroud: Dermatofibrosarcoma protuberans (DFSP) is a relatively uncommon soft tissue neoplasm. It is characterized by its locally aggressive trend and possibility to recur after conservative initial surgical intervention. Wide local excision (2cm or more) with histologically negative margins and Mohs surgery are the mainstay of treatment. However, DFSP most commonly occurs in adults between the ages of 20 and 50, who have increasing cosmetic and functional demand after the surgery. The prophylactic and treatment of these unbearable scars need to be explored. Recently, the early laser intervention has shown promising effect on these abnormal scars.

Observation: A young female patient had DFSP on her right lower leg, who accepted wide local excision and skin graft. 3 month later an ugly hypertrophic scar unfortunately generated, despite of the pressure therapy with silicone gel. The scar was evaluated with the Vancouver Scar Scale (VSS) and the Patient and Observer Scar Assessment Scale (POSAS). The score of VSS was 10, patient POSAS was 35 with observer POSAS as 39. Then she was treated by pulse dye laser. After two sessions with 4 weeks interval, the scar relieved apparently. The score of VSS decreased to 5, while patient POSAS reduced to 15 with observer POSAS as 18. Furthermore, no evidence of DFSP's recurrence was observed.

Key message: Due to population aging and rising cosmetic demand, early intervention to treat the abnormal scar after dermatological surgery, e.g. operation of malignant skin cancer, would be a new trend. The improvement of these scars results in not only better appearance, but also the relief of discomfort. Among sorts of therapies, non-ablative laser may be an optimal option, according to its revealed effect, practicality, well tolerance and minimal secondary invasion.

