



DERMOSCOPY AND SKIN IMAGING

DERMOSCOPY PLUS REFLECTANCE CONFOCAL MICROSCOPY FOR THE DIAGNOSIS OF LENTIGO MALIGNA

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Introduction: The clinical diagnosis of lentigo maligna (LM)/lentigo maligna melanoma (LMM) often represents a challenge: this is due to the overlapping features with other lesions of the chronically photoexposed areas such as solar lentigo, seborrheic keratosis, pigmented actinic keratosis or lichen planus-like-keratosis (LPLK). Several dermoscopic and reflectance confocal microscopy (RCM) criteria of LM/LMM have been described to improve the diagnosis of LM/LMM and a lot of diagnostic algorithms have been developed at this purpose. So far, only one study has compared diagnostic accuracy of dermoscopy and RCM and these techniques were separately used in that study.

Objective: The aim of our study is to evaluate if the addition of dermoscopy to RCM improves the diagnostic accuracy of RCM for LM/LMM.

Materials and Methods: A total of 223 facial lesions were evaluated by 7 experts. Diagnostic accuracy of RCM examination versus RCM plus dermoscopy examination was compared. Sensitivity and specificity of RCM and of the two non-invasive techniques used together





were calculated for each investigator.

Results: The consecutive use of dermoscopy and RCM showed higher sensitivity and specificity compared to RCM alone for the diagnosis of LM/LMM. Mean values of sensitivity and specificity were 85 (SD 78-93) and 83 (SD 78-88) for dermoscopy plus RCM versus 82 (SD 80-85) and 77 (SD 74-79) for RCM alone, respectively.

Conclusions: The subsequential use of dermoscopy and RCM is recommended in order to reach a more precise clinical diagnosis of LM/LMM.

