



INFECTIOUS DISEASES (BACTERIAL, FUNGAL, VIRAL, PARASITIC, INFESTATIONS)

## **EFFICACY AND SAFETY OF INTRALESIONAL MMR VACCINE VERSUS TROPICAL SALICYCLIC ACID THERAPY FOR COMMON WARTS: A COMPARATIVE STUDY**

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**Introduction:** Warts are one of the commonest skin diseases. Extensive and recalcitrant warts cause physical embarrassment and psychological distress to the patients and a therapeutic challenge for the treating dermatologists. Despite of various therapeutic modalities being available, no single therapy has found to be efficacious and cosmetically acceptable. One of the common methods of practice is topical keratolytics but the results are not satisfactory. Immunotherapy is an emerging method and is proposed as a treatment option for recalcitrant and extensive warts.

**Objective:** This study compares the clinical effectiveness of Salicylic Acid (SA) versus immunotherapy with MMR vaccine for the treatment of multiple new or recalcitrant warts.

**Materials and Methods:** This was a comparative clinical trial conducted over a period of one year. Sixty four patients with warts were allocated each in MMR and SA group. In the MMR group, MMR vaccine was given intralesionally at every 2 weeks interval for maximum 3 injections and followed up for every 15 days up to 45 days. In the second group, Salicylic acid was applied to the lesions daily, and followed up every 4 weeks, for upto 12 weeks. Parameters including side effects and therapeutic outcomes were evaluated and compared.

**Result:** The results showed that no significant difference in the age and sex ratio of the patients in the two groups. In the first post-treatment visit, in the MMR group, 29% had complete cure, and in SA group, complete cure had occurred only in 3%. In the third post-treatment visit, the proportion of Complete Care reached 85.4% in the MMR group and 55.6% in SA group, ( $p < 0.005$ ).

**Conclusion:** This study emphasize that Intralesional immunotherapy is easy, safe and cost effective for the treatment of warts. Comparing with previous studies, MMR vaccine has shown to have better results than Salicylic Acid in our study.

