



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

EFFICACY OF AUTOLOGOUS INTRALESIONAL PRP IN THE MANAGEMENT OF CHRONIC NEUROPATHIC ULCERS OF LEPROSY PATIENTS

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Introduction: Neuropathic ulcers in leprosy represent a challenge for dermatologists. Conventional treatments cannot provide satisfactory healing since these treatments lack necessary growth factors.

Objective: The aim of this case series was to determine the role and effectiveness of PRP in healing of chronic neuropathic ulcers of leprosy; and to study the rapidity of healing with respect to ulcer site, size, duration, systemic steroids and MDT.

Material and methods: In our study 17 patients with a total of 25 ulcers were given intralesional injections of PRP into the margins and bed of ulcer. Same procedure was repeated every 15 days until complete re-epithelisation or up to six sittings whichever occurred earlier. Patients were evaluated every fifteen days till 12 weeks.

Results: In our study, 9 ulcers (36 %) showed complete healing. Out of these one ulcer showed healing in 2 weeks, one healed in 3 weeks, five ulcers healed in 4 weeks, one healed in 6 wks and one in 12 wks. At the end of 12 weeks, in 16 patients (64 %), there was marked reduction (80-100%) in wound size with partial re-epithelisation. Average number of sessions which led to healing with partial reepithelisation was 2.7 sessions (5.4 weeks). In our study 3 patients completed MDT MB while the rest 14 were still on therapy. Our study showed that patients on treatment had a significantly higher healing rate. The mean healing duration increased in patients on steroids. The site of ulcer showed no relation to healing of ulcer.

Conclusion: PRP is a cheap, painless; office based valuable procedure which leads to faster healing of chronic neuropathic ulcers. Further controlled, randomized prospective clinical trials on larger patient population are necessary to validate the results.

