



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

INTRALESIONAL IMMUNOTHERAPY IN THE TREATMENT OF COMMON WARTS – UNEXPLORED OR INEFFECTIVE?

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INTRODUCTION: Warts are a mucocutaneous disease that develops as a result of proliferation of infected skin or mucosa with human papilloma virus. Treatment of warts remains a challenge with no universal consensus about optimal treatment. Current methods include destructive therapy with topical agents, surgical methods and immunotherapeutic agents. Immunotherapy mounts a delayed type hypersensitivity response to wart tissue.

OBJECTIVE: Aim of the study is to compare the efficacy and safety of intralesional MUMPS, MEASLES, RUBELLA and BACILLE CALMETTE GUERIN vaccine in the treatment of common warts.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: This study is a prospective study conducted from January 2016 to June 2016 in the department of dermatology of a tertiary care hospital. 60 patients with viral warts were included and were fully assessed before therapy. The patients were divided in two groups of 30 patients randomly. Group 1 patients received intralesional MMR vaccines 0.5cc into wart at intervals of 2 weeks for a maximum of 3 treatments. Group 2 patients received BCG vaccine 0.1cc into wart at interval of 3 weeks for a maximum of 3 treatments. The patients were evaluated every 2 weeks for evidence of regression of lesion. The patients were followed up for 3 months after the last dose.

RESULTS: In group 1 complete response was seen in 19(63%), partial response in 7(23%) and no response in 4(13%) of the patients. Complete response was seen in 12(40%), partial response in 10(33%) and no response in 8(26%) of the patients in group 2. No recurrence was observed in both groups. 2(4%) patients had side effects such as pain and flu like symptoms in group 1. Local side effects like erythema, pain, lymphadenopathy and scar were seen in 10(33%) patients in group 2.

CONCLUSIONS: Intralesional immunotherapy is a potential modality in the treatment of common warts. MMR vaccine is more effective and safe treatment modality for common warts as compared to BCG vaccine.

