

LASERS

EFFECTIVENESS OF DUAL SEQUENTIAL WAVELENGTH LASER IN THE TREATMENT OF PORTWINE STAINS

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INTRODUCTION: Port Wine Stain (PWS) is only partially and superficially treated with the Pulsed dye laser (PDL) because of its limited depth of penetration. The 1064 nm long pulsed Nd:YAG laser has greater depth of penetration and is used to treat deeper vascular lesions. The dual sequential wavelength laser (DSWL) which combines PDL / Nd: YAG (595 / 1064 nm) can be more effective for the treatment of deeper, nodular portwine stains due to its synergestic effect.

OBJECTIVE: To evaluate the efficacy and safety of DSWL in the treatment of portwine stains at the end of 5 treatment sessions.

MATERIAL AND METHODS : A total of 11 patients were included in this study Port wine stains over face and neck were treated with DSWL at monthly intervals for 5 sittings. Photographs was taken before each sitting using standard digital camera. The laser parameters were set depending on the size, colour and site of lesions. Treatment efficacy outcomes were assessed by visual evaluation of photographs at the end of 5 sittings by a fully blinded observer.

RESULTS :. Out of the 11 patients, 5 patients (45.45%) had more than 70% improvement,. 6 out of 11 patients (54.54%) had 40 to 70 % improvement at the end of 5 sittings. There was a progressive lesional lightening noted after each sitting in all patients. Treatment was well tolerated with no adverse effects.

CONCLUSION : DSWL has enhanced penetration and effective clearance of thicker, nodular, recalcitrant lesions of PWS. The synergistic approach of DSWL has greater efficacy compared to conventional PDL and hence can be considered as a safe and effective mode of treatment for PWS.





