LASERS

LYMPHANGIOMA CIRCUMSCRIPTUM WITH FEATURES OF BOTH CLASSIC AND LOCALIZED FORMS TREATED WITH CARBON DIOXIDE LASER

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Background: Lymphangioma circumscriptum is a malformation of lymphatic channels which may be localized, generalized, congenital, or acquired, consisting of cysts filled with lymphatic fluid4. A 47 year- old patient presented with a seventeen-year history of persistent, enlarging, crusted plaques and vesicles, with exudation of clear fluid and blood on her back. This case is reported to present the rare case of adult onset lymphangioma circumscriptum and to present the result of treatment using Carbon dioxide laser.

Observation: Carbon dioxide laser cutting and ablation with a power setting of 10 watts and a defocused 2.0-mm beam was done and after the first session, there was improvement with decrease in thickness of plaques, decrease in crusting, and erythema. This laser is a safe and efficacious option for the treatment of Lymphangioma circumscriptum, particularly in large lesions that may not be amenable to surgery. It vaporizes the underlying tissues and seals the lymphatic channels and superficial vascular components. The damage is very localized, with minimal thermal transmission, and scatter. Carbon dioxide laser allows focal destruction with reservation of surrounding and underlying tissue13. Although it is well tolerated, it has the potential for scarring, prolonged erythema, or post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation8.

Key Message: Carbon dioxide laser is a safe and less invasive option. The favorable result observed in our patient suggests that Carbon dioxide laser may be an additional well-tolerated and safe option for palliation of symptoms in patients with Lymphangioma circumscriptum who are not amenable to surgery.