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LASERS

PIGMENTED PURPURIC DERMATITIS LICHEN AUREUS TYPE SUCESSFUL TREATED WITH 595 NM. PULSE DYE LASER

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Pigmented purpuric dermatosis (PPD) is an all-encompassing term to describe a group of cutaneous lesions that have in common petechiae and bronze discoloration of the skin with primary localization to the legs, and long term evolution. PPD are seen in different clinical scenarios and they include Schamberg's disease, Majocchi's anular telangiectoid purpura, lichen aureus (LA), Gougerot and Blum's purpura and Doucas and Kapetanaki's purpura.

In LA, golden, slightly indurated scaly patches over the medial malleolus are observed. Exactly cause is unknown and there is not definitely treatment.

A female-46 years old without known disease was referred for an eritematous, scally and pruriginous patch of one year evolution in left leg. A punch biopsy was performed and revealed superficial perivascular lymphocytic infiltration and endothelial cell swelling with red blood cell extravasation compatible with LA. Multiple treatments were done without satisfactory results.

We decided to treat with a 595 nm pulse dye laser (PDL) (V-beamperfecta, Candela). The patient was treated with PDL three times over a period of 3 weeks, using a 10mm spot, fluence of 6-7 J/cm2, and a pulse duration of 10 ms. Lesion was cleared by third session.

There is an underlying vascular disturbance in lichen aureus; therefore 595 nm PDL might be an effective treatment for this condition.

Although LA is a benign dermatological condition, their chronicity and cosmetic impact that they produce can be problems that lead to discomfort and emotional stress. New therapeutic strategies emerge to control this condition, such as PDL, which offers results in a relatively short period of time without pain. There's still a lack of randomized and controlled studies to validate this new therapy.





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