



MEDICAL THERAPIES AND PHARMACOLOGY

NEAPOLITAN EXPERIENCE IN THE USE OF INTRALESIONAL METHOTREXATE FOR THE TREATMENT OF KERATOACANTHOMA.

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Background: Keratoacanthomas are common skin lesions known for their rapid growth and spontaneous regression in a long time. They can also occur in sites of prior trauma, such as surgical scars. Treatment of keratoacanthomas can be difficult due to a potentially large field size and number of lesions. Intralesional methotrexate constitutes an effective, nonsurgical treatment of keratoacanthomas, as demonstrated in our case series.

Observation: We treated 11 patients affected with keratoacanthoma with intralesional methotrexate. The dosage was chosen according to the tumoral size: 20 mg for keratoacanthomas measuring up to 2 cm in diameter (6 patients) and 25 mg for those measuring more than 2 cm (5 patients). The injections were performed weekly, followed by 10 mg of folic acid to be taken 24 hours later. All our patients underwent complete resolution of the lesions after 4-8 injections, without side effects. No recurrence has been found at a 3-6 month follow-up.

Key message: Intralesional methotrexate can be an effective and safe non-operative treatment modality for keratoacanthoma, especially when it arises in anatomic areas difficult to treat with surgery, in old debilitated people as well as in patients refusing surgery.

