ABSTRACT BOOK ABSTRACTS



PHOTOTHERAPY, PHOTODYNAMIC THERAPY

## COMPARATIVE STUDY OF DAYLIGHT VERSUS CONVENTIONAL PHOTODYNAMIC THERAPY IN THE TREATMENT OF RECALCITRANT FACIAL FLAT WARTS.

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Background: The treatment of recalcitrant facial flat warts (FFW) is often troublesome, with poor efficacy, high incidence of recurrence and risk of permanent sequelae with traditional therapies. Conventional photodynamic therapy (c-PDT) has been recently used in refractory patients, with good outcome and safe profile. The efficacy of daylight photodynamic therapy (d-PDT) has not been yet evaluated.

Objective: To investigate and evaluate the efficacy and safety of c-PDT versus d-PDT using 10% aminolevulinic acid (ALA) in the treatment of multiple recalcitrant FFW.

Materials and Methods: Twenty consecutive adult patients affected by FFW were included and randomly divided into two groups: ten patients underwent d-PDT (group A) and ten patients underwent c-PDT (group B). The procedures were conducted for 3 times with 2-week intervals. The response was assessed on weeks 4, 8, 12 and 24, and scored as excellent (75-100% reduction of total wart count), very good (74-50% reduction), good (49-25% reduction), poor (<25% reduction or no response). Any adverse event occurring during/after ALA application or irradiation, as well as pain intensity, was recorded at each visit.

Results: At week 4, excellent response was observed in 20% of group A patients vs 30% of group B patients. The clearance rate raised to 50% and 70% at week 8 and 12 in group A, respectively, vs 60% and 70% in group B. At week 24, excellent results were detected in 80% of patients in both groups. The treatment modalities were well tolerated, with transient pain, irritation and hyperpigmentation as main side effects.

Conclusions: Recalcitrant FFW can be successfully treated with both conventional and daylight PDT. Compared with conventional modality, d-PDT was better tolerated and appreciated by patients.





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