



PHOTOTHERAPY, PHOTODYNAMIC THERAPY

EFFICACY OF PHOTODYNAMIC THERAPY IN BOWEN'S DISEASE: A RETROSPECTIVE OBSERVATIONAL STUDY IN 423 LESIONS

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Introduction: Photo Dynamic Therapy (PDT) is a well-known technique that is often used for treating superficial precancerous and cancerous skin lesions. However, only a handful of studies, with relatively small number of treated lesions, have been carried out on the effectiveness of PDT for Bowen's Disease (BD).

Objectives: This study aim to assess the effectiveness and recurrence risk of PDT in the treatment of BD in a larger study population than in previous studies. The secondary objectives were to determine what factors affected the response rates and the cosmetic result of the treatment

Material and Method: In this retrospective observational study, the electronic patient charts at Sahlgrenska University Hospital (SUH) in Gothenburg, Sweden were searched to find all patients diagnosed with BD that were treated with PDT between January 1, 2002 and December 31, 2014.

Results: In total 423 BD lesions in 335 patients were included in the study. The mean follow up (FU) duration in total was 11.2 months (range 0.2-151 months). The complete clearance rate at the first FU visit was 77.5% for all BD lesions. During later FU visits, another 60 recurrences were observed, which resulted in a recurrence rate of 18.3 % among the BD lesions that had responded to treatment. Thus, the overall clearance rate after FU was 63.4 % for all BD lesions. Significant risk factors for unsuccessful treatment in the present study were large lesion size (>2cm) and a single PDT session.

Conclusion: This study shows that PDT is a relatively effective modality in BD.

