



PSORIASIS

CLINICAL EFFICACY OF THALIDOMIDE COMBINED WITH AVERMECTIN A IN THE TREATMENT OF GENERALIZED PUSTULAR PSORIASIS

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Introduction: Tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF-alpha) plays an important role in the pathogenesis of generalized pustular psoriasis (GPP), fever and Kogoj microabscess formation. Anti-TNF-alpha preparation is effective in the treatment of GPP. Thalidomide can degrade TNF- alpha mRNA and block its signal transduction. Therefore, thalidomide can be used in the treatment of GPP theoretically.

Objective: To observe the clinical efficacy and side effects of thalidomide combined with acitretin in the treatment of GPP.

Materials and Methods: Twenty-one adult patients confirmed GPP from the ward of Departments of Dermatology, Sichuan Provincial People's Hospital were randomly divided into two groups, which have the same basic treatments and no gender limitation. Ten cases in the treatment group were treated with oral thalidomide 50mg three times per day combined with oral acitretin capsules 30mg daily. Eleven cases in the control group were treated with oral acitretin capsules 30mg once per day only. The efficacy and safety of all patients were observed.

Results: The course of disease in the treatment group was shorter than that in the control group, and there were no obvious adverse reactions in the patients, while some patients in the control group had slight abnormal liver function, elevated blood lipids, and most patients had itching symptoms.

Conclusion: Thalidomide combined with acitretin in the treatment of GPP has the advantages of quick onset time, less adverse reactions, shorter course of disease and relief of discomfort. A large number of clinical cases are needed to verify this theory in the future.

