SKIN CANCER (OTHER THAN MELANOMA)

# CRYOSURGERY OF BASAL CELL CARCINOMA IN XERODERMA PIGMENTOSUM

*S Triki Ben Ammar [(1)] - M Zghal [(2)] - A Jellouli [(3)] - M Jones [(3)]*

*Hospital, Ettadhamen Hospital, Tunis, Tunisia [(1)] - Hospital, Dermatology Department, Charles- Nicolle Hospital, Tunis, Tunisia [(2)] - Hospital, Dermatology Department, Charles-Nicolle Hospital, Tunis, Tunisia [(3)]*

Introduction: Basal cell carcinoma (BCC) is frequent in patients with xeroderma pigmentosum (XP). Because these tumours are multiple and occur frequently on the face, alternatives to surgery are useful.

Objective: The purpose of this study was to establish the cure rate, functional preservation, cosmetic results, acceptance, and complications of cryosurgery for BCC in XP patients.

Materials and methods: We conducted a retrospective study that included all instances of BCC occuring in XP patients between January 2007and July 2016. BCCs were treated with single freeze-thaw cryosurgery using a cryoprobe apparatus with liquid nitrogen.

Results: Forty-eight tumours of primary facial BCC and one case of relapsing BCC were treated in 20 XP patients (mean age: I8 years, sex-ratio: 0.5). The mean size of BCCs was 8 mm. All the tumours were nodular. Thirteen of which were ulcerated. All BCCs were located on the face (cheeks: 19, nose: 13, forehead: 11, internal canthus: 6). Follow up ranged from 12 to 60 months (mean: 29 months). Complications were rare. Cosmetic results were satisfactory. We noted 13 cases of hypopigmentaion (26,5%) and one notch on the nose following treatment for recurrent BCC on a radiotherapy scar. Relapse occurred in one case (2,O4%)

Conclusion: BCC occurs frequently in XP patients and is located on the exposed skin areas. Cryosurgery is a well-tolerated therapeutic modality that offers an acceptable cure rate and good functional and cosmetic results.