SKIN CANCER (OTHER THAN MELANOMA)

IN VIVO REFLECTANCE CONFOCAL MICROSCOPY FEATURES OF PRIMARY CUTANEOUS FOLLICLE CENTER CELL LYMPHOMA

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Background: Primary cutaneous follicle center cell lymphoma (PCFCL) is the most frequent type of B-cell lymphoma primarily involving the skin. It usually has a good prognosis, but sometimes its diagnosis can be challenging. In vivo reflectance confocal microscopy (RCM) is a novel technique that allows the noninvasive imaging of various skin lesions with high resolution and strong correlation with conventional histology. RCM has already been reported to be useful for the in vivo diagnosis and therapeutic follow-up of cutaneous T-cell lymphomas. However, to date no confocal features have been described for the diagnosis of PCFCL or other B-cell lymphomas. Herein we describe the in vivo RCM features of PCFCL lesions and correlate them with dermoscopic and histologic findings.

Observation: We used a commercially available reflectance-mode confocal laser scanning microscope with a wavelength of 785 nm to investigate the lesional epidermis, dermo-epidermal junction and superficial dermis. In vivo RCM features observed in PCFCL lesions correlate with histopathology and include round-shaped, highly-refractive tumor masses in the dermis (Figure (a)), bright cells of various sizes dispersed throughout the dermis and aggregates of bright small cells (lymphocytes) at the periphery of tumor masses (Figure (b)). The maximum depth of imaging limited to the upper reticular dermis was a disadvantage of the RCM examination.

Key message: In vivo RCM examination seems to be a promising tool for identifying features of primary cutaneous follicle center cell lymphoma that correlate to histopathology, although further larger studies are needed in order to confirm the specificity of these findings.