ABSTRACT BOOK ABSTRACTS



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SKIN CANCER (OTHER THAN MELANOMA)

PHOTODYNAMIC THERAPY AS AN ALTERNATIVE TREATMENT IN PATIENTS WITH INVASIVE CUTANEOUS SCC WHERE SURGERY IS NOT FEASIBLE: A SINGLE CENTER EXPERIENCE.

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Background: Treatment of majority of cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma (cSCC) is effectively accomplished by surgical excision but if surgery is not feasible, nonsurgical therapies need to be considered.

Objective: To demonstrate the efficacy of 5-aminolevulinic acid photodynamic therapy (ALA-PDT) as an alternative treatment option for those patients with invasive cSCC who are not fit for surgery.

Method: 34 biopsy proven invasive cSCC patients who, for some reasons, cannot be operated were enrolled in this study. All patients were treated with plum blossom needle (PBN) assisted topical ALA-PDT followed by 5% imiquimod cream. Before PDT, paraffin oil and saline was used to remove crust and lesions were injected with 2% lidocaine to relieve pain. PDT was given 2 weekly at 4 hours incubation period. To assess treatment response, lesions were clinically examined, photographs were taken, and dermoscopy was done at each visit. After complete remission, patients are examined 3 monthly to assess for recurrence.

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Result: The treatment is well tolerated and all patients are satisfied (except for two patients who discontinued treatment due to severe pain) with treatment outcome. By now, 6 patients have achieved complete remession after 2 to 9 sessions of PDT and these patients had no recurrence till last follow up (3-18 months after treatment). Remaining 28 patients have tumor regression, of which 2 patients discontinued treatment due to severe pain and 26 patients are under PDT. Overall PDT was well-tolerated and provided satisfactory cosmetic outcome.

Conclusion: PBN pretreated PDT sequential by topical imiquimod is a viable treatment option for SCC lesions that cannot be resected surgically.





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