



SKIN MANIFESTATIONS OF INTERNAL DISEASE

## INTRALESIONAL SODIUM THIOSULFATE FOR MANAGEMENT OF CALCIPHYLAXIS – A CASE SERIES

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**Background:** Calciphylaxis is a calcium deposition disorder of small- and medium-sized dermal vessels with a high mortality rate. It often presents as painful ulcers or areas of induration in those with end stage renal disease. One of the few treatment options available is intravenous sodium thiosulfate, yet this therapy is limited not only by its potential systemic toxicity but also its high cost. We report a case series of six patients with calciphylaxis treated with intralesional sodium thiosulfate (STS).

**Observation:** Complete resolution of cutaneous wounds was seen in three patients, one showed symptomatic improvement, one passed away from complications of her renal disease, and our final patient had progression of her skin lesions. No systemic side effects were noted, and pain with injection was the only side effect seen in our patients. Additionally, the cost of intralesional STS (\$12-\$36 CAD/week) was substantially less relative to its intravenous counterpart (\$900 CAD/week).

**Key Message:** Intralesional STS is a promising treatment for calciphylaxis. When compared to the intravenous administration of STS and its potential side effects, intralesional STS led to no systemic side effects, and patients only experienced pain with injection. Additionally, the cost of intralesional STS is substantially less relative to its intravenous counterpart. To our knowledge this is the largest, and only third to report the successful use of intralesional sodium thiosulfate in those with calciphylaxis, thereby providing further evidence that such a targeted therapy warrants additional research to determine its role in calciphylaxis treatment.

