



INFECTIOUS DISEASES (BACTERIAL, FUNGAL, VIRAL, PARASITIC, INFESTATIONS)

EFFICACY OF AUTOLOGOUS SERUM INJECTION IN NON-HEALING TROPHIC ULCER OF LEPROSY

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Introduction: The trophic ulcer or chronic plantar ulcer of leprosy refers to the dreaded, recalcitrant disability of the sensory-deficient foot. The chronicity of the ulcer is perpetuated by repeated inadvertent trauma or injury. Sensory loss, muscular paralysis, autonomic nerve damage, primary vascular insufficiency, and/or the direct action of *Mycobacterium leprae* have been incriminated.

This is the most common foot problem seen in leprosy-affected persons.

Objective: To study the efficacy of ASI (Autologous Serum Injection) in non-healing trophic ulcers in leprosy patients.

Materials and methods: 30 patients were enrolled in study based on exclusion and inclusion criteria, divided into two groups of 15 patients each. One group was given autologous serum and other group was given normal saline dressing. Autologous serum was prepared by centrifugation of blood using centrifuge machine at the rate of 2000 rpm for 10 mins at room temperature and infiltrated immediately intralesionally into the ulcer base from different angles. Same procedure was repeated every week for 4 weeks.

Results: After 4 weeks of therapy out of 15 cases treated with autologous serum therapy epithelial tissue was seen in 9 patients from granulation tissue, healed wound bed was seen in 6 patients, whereas in patients treated with normal saline dressing 12 patients had presence of Granulation tissue.

Conclusion: Autologous serum therapy leads to faster rate of induction of granulation tissue with rapid healing. We intended to study a cost effective and easily available method for treating ulcer patients with ASI.

