PHOTOTHERAPY, PHOTODYNAMIC THERAPY

"SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT OF BASAL CELL CARCINOMA ON FACE AND SCALP BY PHOTODYNAMIC THERAPY IN INDIAN PATIENTS WITH DERMOSCOPIC DIAGNOSIS AND A SERIAL FOLLOW-UP"

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Introduction : Dermoscopy is a noninvasive optical surface microscopy, useful for diagnostic purposes in a number of skin conditions including basal cell carcinoma (BCC). Several dermoscopic criteria for diagnosing BCC have been identified.

Aim and objective : We report the dermoscopic findings of basal cell carcinoma inorder to improve the diagnostic accuracy. Furthermore, we provide a series of clinical pictures and dermoscopic figures before and after photodynamic therapy (PDT)

Materials and Methods : Eleven Indian patients with clinical, dermoscopical and histologically confirmed diagnosis of basal cell carcinoma were debulked using Ultrapulse Co2 laser followed by PDT using methyl aminolevulinate at the same sitting with repeat PDT 10 days later. Efficacy, safety, tolerability and cosmetic outcome were evaluated at end of 1, 3, 6 and 9 months . Serially dermoscopic images were taken.

Results : The patients received photodynamic therapy that yielded an excellent clinical response over a 9-months follow-up. Disappearance of dermoscopic features was predictive of successful treatment.

Conclusion : After a 9-month follow-up, we did not discover any evidence of tumor recurrence or any residual erythema. Dermoscopy is an effective method for follow-up of noninvasive treatment modalities in cases of BCC