SKIN CANCER (OTHER THAN MELANOMA)

CURE RATES FROM SHAVE EXCISIONS FOR INTRAEPIDERMAL CARCINOMAS (IECS)- A RANDOMISED CONTROL TRIAL

Charlotte Wyatt [1] - Karyn Lun [2] - Salvatore Scuderi [1]

Royal Brisbane And Women's Hospital, Dermatology, Brisbane, Australia [1] - Princess Alexandra Hospital, Queensland Institute Of Dermatology And Cordelia Dermatology, Dermatology, Brisbane, Australia [2]

Introduction: Intraepidermal squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) is a common superficial form of skin cancer. It is also known as Bowen disease, intraepidermal carcinoma (IEC) and SCC in situ. IECs are recognised clinically. It is common in dermatology, plastic surgery and general practice to excise IECS with a shave biopsy, but there is limited research on this.

Objective: To determine whether shave excisions of intraepidermal carcinomas are an effective method of treatment in comparison to curettage and cautery (C&C).

Materials and Methods: 20 patients were consented at the Royal Brisbane Women's Hospital, Queensland's largest teaching and research hospital.
Patients were randomised to shave excision or C&C.
Shave excision was defined as same depth as biopsy but with an aim of horizontal margin control.
Patient's details and procedure was recorded and photographs were taken.
Patients were reviewed at three and six months post procedure, with clinical assessment of the procedure sites.

Results: 20 patients were included in the study (as reached inclusion criteria), 10 females (average age 78.3 years) and 10 males (average age 68.3 years). Of the 20 patients, 13 patients received shave excision, with 8 in the C&C control group.
One IEC recurred in the shave excision group, while two IECs recurred in the C&C control group.

Conclusions: Although limited by small numbers, the data suggests that shave excision and C&C for IEC have similar cure rates, and further research is recommended. Shave excision is a simple procedure with low morbidity, therefore may be considered an effective treatment modality for IEC.