

FP0811 TREATMENT OF LENTIGO MALIGNA OF THE NOSE BY IMIQUIMOD CREAM 5%: CLINICAL, DERMOSCOPICAL AND HISTOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF THREE CASES

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Background Lentigo maligna (LM) is an in situ melanoma that occurs on sun-damaged skin, especially of the head and neck of elderly patients. Although LM has the potential for invasion (Lentigo Maligna Melanoma), it often has a greatly protracted radial growth phase and may remain indolent for many years. Surgical excision is the treatment of choice for LM. However, surgical options may be limited because of location, extension, age and general health state of the patient. A high percentage of patients receives other types of treatments (Radiotherapy, cryotherapy, laser).(1)

Imiquimod cream 5% is an immunomodulatory agent, currently used for treatment of basal cell carcinoma and actinic keratoses and previously has been reported to successfully eradicate LM.(2,3) Nevertheless, up to today a therapeutic protocol doesn't exist

Objectives We evaluated the treatment course of topical imiquimod in 3 patients with LM on the nose, confirmed by histological examination.

Methods One patient decided to stop the treatment because of local side effects and he preferred the surgical therapy. For the other patients the treatment is continued up to clinical and dermoscopic resolution.

Results The results of post-treatment biopsies of the most clinically and dermoscopically doubtful areas showed histologic clearance. The patients have been followed up for 12 months without evidence of recurrences.

Conclusion These findings suggest that imiquimod cream 5% may be an effective alternative treatment for LM. The use of dermoscopy can be very useful for diagnosis, but most of all for individuation of suspicious or doubtful areas at the end of the treatment and during the Follow up that have to be regular, strict and long-term.

References: References

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