Cryopeeling versus Trichloroacetic acid peeling in the treatment of solar lentigines: Effect on epidermal Langerhans cells

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Abstract:

Introduction: Solar lentigines are of great aesthetic concern for many patients. Although cryotherapy is the golden standard treatment, it may be associated with some side effects. Trichloroacetic acid (TCA) peeling may be an effective alternative but with some concerns regarding potential tumorigenesis. Cryopeeling technique would be better tolerated with improving the entire sun-damaged skin region. Objective: To evaluate the efficacy and side-effects of cryopeeling compared with TCA 35% peeling in the treatment of solar lentigines on the dorsum of the hands and assess their influence on the number of epidermal LCs. Material and Methods: Twenty-five patients were included in the study. The right hand of each patient was treated with TCA 35%, and the left hand with cryopeeling. Two treatment sessions were done three weeks apart. Evaluations were scheduled at weeks 0, 3, and 8. Skin lesions were biopsied before and 3 weeks after treatment for immunohistochemical staining for CD1a+ epidermal LCs. Results: After the first session, the number of lentigines was reduced only in the hand treated with cryopeeling (p

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