

Successful treatment of an extensive verrucous carcinoma

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Abstract

Our recent study found that a new topical 5-aminolevulinic acid-mediated photodynamic therapy (ALA-PDT) protocol composed of multiple 3-min fractionated irradiations with a light emitting diode (LED) red light at 635 +/- 5 nm for a total of 1000 s (fluence rate: 100 mW/cm²; light exposure dose: 100 J/cm²) after topical application of 20% ALA for 1.5 or 2 h can be used successfully for the treatment of oral verrucous hyperplasia. In this case report, we tested the efficacy of this new treatment protocol of ALA-PDT for an extraoral verrucous carcinoma (VC) lesion at the right mouth angle and an intraoral VC lesion at the right buccal mucosa of a 56-year-old male areca quid chewer and smoker. The extraoral tumor was cleared after six treatments of topical ALA-PDT and the intraoral tumor showed complete regression after 22 treatments of topical ALA-PDT. No recurrence of the VC lesion was found after a follow-up period of 6 months. We suggest that PDT using a topical application of 20% ALA followed by multiple 3-min fractionated irradiations with an LED red light is also an effective and successful treatment modality for VC.