Case Report

Authors:
Cibele Toledo1
Naomi Carrara Matsuura1
Victoria Linhares Maia Santana1
Talita Andrade Brandão1
Nabila Scabine Pessotti1

1 University of Mogi das Cruzes, Department of Dermatology, Mogi das Cruzes (SP), Brazil.

Address for correspondence:
Cibele Toledo
Email: cibele.toledo@hotmail.com

Financial support: None.
Conflict of interest: None.
Submitted on: 15/02/2023
Approved on: 27/07/2023

How to cite this article:

DOI: http://www.dx.doi.org/10.5935/scd1984-8773.2022150227

ABSTRACT

Intense Pulsed Light (IPL) is an effective technology to treat vascular lesions, pigmented lesions, and photorejuvenation, among other indications. In the case of telangiectasia, its mechanism of action is based on photothermolysis of the vessels, inducing intravascular coagulation. We report three cases where IPL was used to treat telangiectasia in a surgical scar, showing good aesthetic results after three sessions.

Keywords: Cicatrix; Telangiectasia; Intense Pulsed Light Therapy; Erythema

RESUMO

A luz intensa pulsada (LIP) é uma tecnologia eficaz para o tratamento de lesões vasculares, lesões pigmentadas, fotorejuvenescimento, entre outras indicações. No caso das telangiectasias, seu mecanismo de ação baseia-se na fototermolise dos vasos, induzindo a coagulação intravascular. Relatamos três casos em que a LIP foi utilizada para tratar telangiectasias em cicatriz cirúrgica, apresentando bons resultados estéticos após três sessões.

Palavras-chave: Cicatriz; Telangiectasia; Terapia de Luz Pulsada Intensa; Eritema
INTRODUCTION

Intense pulsed light (IPL) is a technology created to treat vascular lesions, pigmented lesions, and other applications, such as hair removal and photorejuvenation. It became a very versatile tool in Dermatology by producing single or multiple synchronized pulses at a wavelength of 400-1200 nm and with the possibility of varying the duration of these shots.¹

This study aims to demonstrate the use of IPL therapy in scars on the face, targeting to reduce erythema and the presence of telangiectasia. We report three cases where we used IPL therapy in the scar region, with good aesthetic results.

METHODS

Three patients reporting aesthetic discomfort with the scar on their face after surgical excision of basal cell carcinoma (BCC) underwent IPL treatment (Table 1).

**Patient 1:** A 61-year-old man presented a grayish papule on the tip of the nose. We performed an incisional biopsy with an anatomopathological report of nodular and micronodular BCC. Surgical excision was performed using the advancement flap reconstruction technique (Figure 1).

**Patient 2:** A 64-year-old woman had an erythematous papule with a pearly sheen on the left epicanthus. We performed an incisional biopsy with an anatomopathological report of expansive nodular BCC. Surgical excision was conducted with Mohs micrographic surgery associated with the rotation flap reconstruction technique (Figure 2).

**Patient 3:** A 58-year-old woman presented an erythematous papule with a pearly sheen on the nasal dorsum. We performed an incisional biopsy with an anatomopathological report of sclerodermiform BCC. Mohs micrographic surgery was conducted with primary wound closure (Figure 3).

After surgical treatment, all three patients reported aesthetic discomfort with the surgical scar, with local erythema and telangiectasia. We treated the surgical scars with intense pulsed light (Etherea® Platform) in three sessions at monthly intervals. During treatment with intense pulsed light, patients used chemical sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) 50 daily.

<table>
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<th>Table 1: Parameters used in each IPL treatment session - filter (nm), fluence (mJ/cm²), pulse duration (ms)</th>
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<td><strong>Patient</strong></td>
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nm: nanometer; mJ: millijoule; cm²: square centimeter; ms: millisecond

**FIGURE 1:** Patient 1 - before treatment with IPL (telangiectasia and erythema on the nasal tip); After three IPL treatment sessions
RESULTS

The three patients evolved with good aesthetic results, evidenced by reduced erythema and telangiectasia in the scar region.

DISCUSSION

The present report demonstrated that treatment with IPL is effective in improving the clinical appearance of patients with facial telangiectasia, with minimal and transient adverse events.²,³
IPL is an effective and safe therapeutic option for rosacea and telangiectasia. IPL treatment stimulates superficial collagen and elastic fibers in the dermis. It is due to the selective absorption of light by tissue water, increasing heat conduction around collagen and, consequently, its production. Also, there is an increase in fibroblasts production due to the photothermal effect. This type of therapy destroys dilated blood vessels and reduces inflammation levels, contributing to an overall improvement in skin quality.

CONCLUSION

IPL treatment is a safe and effective therapeutic option for improving the aesthetic appearance of surgical scars.

REFERENCES:


AUTHORS’ CONTRIBUTION:

Cibele Toledo ORCID 0009-0005-1014-7705
Preparation and writing of the manuscript; collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data; critical literature review.

Naomi Carrara Matsuura ORCID 0000-0001-5097-6851
Preparation and writing of the manuscript; collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data; critical literature review.

Victoria Linhares Maia Santana ORCID 0009-0000-6597-1463
Preparation and writing of the manuscript; collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data; critical literature review.

Talita Andrade Brandão ORCID 0000-0003-4948-5144
Effective participation in research guidance; intellectual participation in propaedeutic and/or therapeutic conduct of studied cases.

Nabila Scabine Pessotti ORCID 0000-0003-0879-2981
Approval of the final version of the manuscript; study design and planning; effective participation in research guidance; intellectual participation in propaedeutic and/or therapeutic conduct of studied cases; critical literature review; critical review of the manuscript.