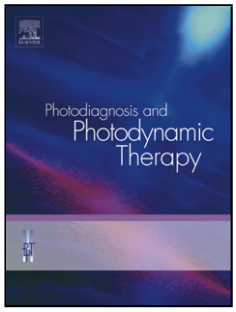

Title: Photodynamic therapy of necrobiosis lipoidica using methyl aminolevulinate: a retrospective follow-up study

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Highlights

- Photodynamic therapy with curettage is an effective treatment for necrobiosis lipoidica
- Photodynamic therapy is a well-tolerated treatment for necrobiosis lipoidica
- Daylight photodynamic therapy is recommended
- At least six month of follow-up is recommended

Abstract

Introduction

Necrobiosis lipoidica (NL) is a rare, treatment-resistant, granulomatous skin disease of unknown origin,frequently seen in patients with diabetes.

Methods

In this retrospective study we evaluated the long-term efficacy of methyl aminolaevulinate-based photodynamic therapy (MAL-PDT), including 80 treatments (70 conventional and 10 daylight PDT), on 65 unselected NL patients treated routinely in our clinic. Superficial curettage, avoiding skin oozing or bleeding, was performed prior to MAL application.

Results

Conventional MAL-PDT had a 100% cure rate (CR) in 64% (45/70) of the treatment series. With daylight PDT we observed a 100% CR in 80% of the treatment series (8/10), an insignificant difference compared to conventional PDT ($p = 0.48$). The overall cure rate was 66% (53/80). We