

CARBON DIOXIDE LASER VAPORIZATION IN TREATMENT OF VERRUCAE VULGARES

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ABSTRACT

In this paper the author presents an effective method of surgical treatment using the carbon dioxide laser for removal of viral induced benign epithelial tumors i.e. warts on surface of the hands. With carbon dioxide laser were treated 30 patients with more than 5 warts or with a single wart larger than 2 cm in diameter, which were on the skin more than six months. Eighty-one percent of the patients required only one laser treatment to complete the eradication of warts. Retreatments during the early postoperative months were necessary in 6 patients.

The carbon dioxide laser vaporization is an excellent method for treating problematic or recurrent warts. The author concludes that carbon dioxide laser treatment is now an important method in the treatment of recurrent, gigantic or widespread warts.

KEY WORDS

warts, carbon dioxide laser vaporization

INTRODUCTION

This is a report on using the carbon dioxide (CO₂) laser for removal of verrucae vulgares. All warty lesions tend to show erratic growth patterns, remaining static for a long period or proliferating with alarming speed. The growth may be generated by altered immune conditions in transplant or lymphoma patients or by intake immunosuppressive drugs.

It is known that about 67% of warts disappear spontaneously (1). A lot of them are unusually extensive or unresponsive to other routine treatments

such as cryosurgery, electrosurgery, or local acid application. The CO₂ laser is an efficacious instrument for treating that kind of warts (2).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Thirty patients were treated for viral warts on surface of the hands by means of CO₂ laser. All patients were selected for this treatment because their warts did not respond well to other routine treatments, they were unusually extensive or they persisted longer than a year on the hand. If there

