Dermoabrasion - method of choice in treatment of morbus Darier

Z. Periš

SUMMARY

Presented are patients with typical changes in morbus Darier, successfully treated with the method of deep abrasion. After experimental abrasions the regenerated epidermis revealed all the characteristics of morbus Darier, while the regenerated epidermis after deep abrasion, when the regeneration resulted from remnants of epidermal adnexes, became completely normal both clinically and pathohistologically. Abrasion of large surfaces is performed under complete anesthesia. Morbus Darier is the only hereditary keratoderma in which after deep dermoabrasion the clinically and pathohistologically normal epidermis is regenerated and remains permanently unchanged. A highly probable explanation is that during the embriogenesis the epithelial adnexes had been formed before the pathological process characteristic for morbus Darier started.

KEY WORDS

Darier's disease, therapy, dermabrasion, deep

Introduction

Morbus Darier or dyskeratosis follicularis is a special form of the disturbance of the follicular keratinization, which appears clinically on the skin, mucous membranes and nails. Approximately, it affects one to two persons in 100.000, and is predominantly inherited by anauto somal dominant gene (1). Its genetic expressivity is variable, and often spontaneous mutations occur. The deficiency of the tonofilament-desmosome complex is responsible for this anomaly. The credit for the description of the disease belongs to Darier and White who had provided it in 1889 (2,3). But since Darier had been the first to describe the pathohistological changes, his name is used as eponym for the disease. The beginning of this disease is gradual, and it occurs mostly between the ages of 10 and 15, appearing as keratotic follicular papules of dirty brown color up to the length of 5 mm. With the removal of the pink plug or small warts, which also appear at times, there emerge warty vegetations emitting an unpleasant smell. Patients also complain of itching. The rudimentary forms are also described. The buccal mucous membrane, tongue, pharynx, larynx and rectum may also be involved. An abnormal function of T-cells as well as mental retarda-