Treatment of Poikiloderma of Civatte with ablative fractional laser resurfacing: prospective study and review of the literature.

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Abstract

BACKGROUND: Previous laser treatments for Poikiloderma of Civatte (PC) (i.e., Pulsed dye, Intense Pulsed Light, KTP and Argon) are limited by side effect profiles and/or efficacy. Given the high degree of safety and efficacy of ablative fractional photothermolysis (AFP) for photoaging, we set out to assess the efficacy of PC with AFP.

DESIGN: A prospective pilot study for PC in 10 subjects with a series of 1-3 treatment sessions. Treatment sessions were administered at 6-8 week intervals with blinded physician photographic analysis of improvement at 2 months post-treatment. Evaluation was performed of five clinical indicators, erythema/telangiectasia, dyschromia, skin texture, skin laxity and cosmetic outcome.

RESULTS: The number of treatments required for improvement of PC ranged from 1 to 3, with an average of 1.4. For erythema/telangiectasia, the mean score improved 65.0% (95% CI: 60.7%, 69.3%) dyschromia, 66.7% (95% CI: 61.8%, 71.6%), skin texture, 51.7% (95% CI: 48.3%, 55.1%) and skin laxity, 52.5% (95% CI: 49.6%, 55.4%). For cosmetic outcome, the mean score improved 66.7% (95% CI: 62.6%, 70.8%) at 2 months post-treatment.

CONCLUSION: In this prospective study, AFP was both safe and effective for the treatment of the vascular, pigmented and textural components of PC. The degree of improvement observed in wrinkling, creping and laxity after AFP has not been reported with prior laser treatments for PC.

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