Intense pulsed-light therapy for proliferative haemangiomas of infancy.

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Abstract

Infantile haemangioma therapy has long been a wait-and-see policy. Since recent development of laser and light therapy, pulsed dye laser has been successfully used for treating superficial haemangiomas. Few studies have been published about treatment with intense pulsed light (IPL) to assess the risk/benefit of IPL in the treatment of infantile haemangiomas during their early proliferative phase. In the present retrospective cohort study, we retrieved data about a series of 14 Caucasian children (median age: 4.8 months) with infantile haemangiomas treated with Photoderm Vasculight flash lamp. All patients experienced a rapid regression of the haemangiomas after 3 treatments on average. Few adverse events were noted, including ulceration and crusts. No residual scarring and cosmetic damages were noticed. Fast growing haemangiomas should be treated with light therapy as soon as possible. This technology is safe, efficient, inducing regression, and preventing any further functional and aesthetic complications. The benefit-risk ratio favours the treatment of most types of haemangiomas which are out of the scope of betablocker administration.

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