

Innovations

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Tunneling technique for ease of intralesional injection in keloids

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PROBLEM

Intralesional injections are the mainstay of the treatment for keloids. However, injecting through thick keloidal tissue is a challenge as a result of excessive proliferation of dermal fibroblasts and haphazardly arranged thick hyalinized collagen.

To overcome the difficulty of injection, clinicians use dermajet^[1] to deliver intralesional drugs, although it is expensive and has deeper penetration. Another method of making keloid tissue soft is cryotherapy; however, it can give rise to bullae, ulceration, secondary infection, and dyspigmentation.^[2]

SOLUTION

To soothe the process of injecting pharmacological agent into hard keloids, we propose that a 26G needle be inserted into keloid tissue and moved in a to and fro manner in different directions to create multiple tunnels. Thereafter, the intended drug is injected with ease owing to creation of these tunnels [Video 1]. A 26G needle was found to be suitable for tunneling [Figure 1].

This simple technique allows drug delivery into keloids with ease due to the tunnels created. On account of this, we have termed this technique as "tunneling technique."



Figure 1: Tunneling in keloids with 26G needle and 1 mL syringe.

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Video 1: File demonstrating conventional injection technique followed by tunneling technique in keloid.

Declaration of patient consent

The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent.

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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