

USE OF CHITOSAN FILM FOR REFRACTORY PAIN IN PERIOSTOMAL ULCER

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Background

Healthy skin around open stoma in colostomy patients is exposed to a humid environment and the acidity of the faeces. This condition can produce peristomal skin problems like very painful ulcers, with a difficult pain management. Chitosan is a biodegradable polymer and has an important role in clinical practice.

Purpose

To evaluate the efficacy of chitosan film in a patient with refractory pain caused by peristomal ulcer.

Material and methods

Film preparation: Chitosan was diluted in sterile water to a final concentration of 2% at 70°C and mixing with a magnetic stirrer. 0,2 mL of acetic acid glacial were added slowly to form a semisolid gel.

The gel was allowed to dry in a plastic solid base for 24 hours at room temperature protected from UV light to form a film. Efficacy was measured on: a visual analog scale for pain (VAS pain), the Clinical Global Impression - Global Improvement (CGI-I) Scale, and the reduction of dose or withdrawal of analgesic medication base.

Results

We report a colostomy patient who presents with painful conditions refractory to conventional analgesic therapy. A 68 years of age male patient [76 kg and 168 cm] is presented. Chitosan film was applied above the peristomal ulcer and we place a stoma disk on the abdomen. The patient was receiving magnesium metamizole rescues (575 milligrams three times per day) until the treatment with chitosan film, resulting in the absence of rescue magnesium metamizole on second day of initiating therapy.

The VAS pain score before chitosan film was 9 and remained at score 2 for 48 hours after the film application, achieving a score of 2 on day one. CGI-I Scale at the end of the treatment score was 1 (denoting a great improvement). The patient had no changes in clinical parameters. The total rinsing treatment duration was four days, requiring only two rinses the first day. Cessation of pain occurred within 15 minutes after beginning with film application.



Conclusions

Chitosan 2% film showed complete efficacy in our peristomal patient with painful conditions refractory to standard analgesic therapy. Further studies are needed to strengthen our results.

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