OFF-LABEL USE OF INTRALESIONAL CIDOFOVIR IN RECURRENT RESPIRATORY PAPILLOMATOSIS: A CASE REPORT

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BACKGROUND

Recurrent respiratory papillomatosis (RRP) is a rare disease that predominantly affects the larynx and trachea, but it can spread to any other part of the respiratory tract. The etiological agent of RRP is human papilloma virus (HPV) types 6 and 11. Treatment options in RRP include surgical excision and adjuvant antiviral drugs administration.

PURPOSE

To describe the intrallesional cidofovir preparation as a magistral formula and the clinical evolution in a patient with RRP.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

1. A descriptive study of RRP in a 3-year-old child with dysphonia since birth. Papillomatous lesions were located on the vocal folds and the laryngeal surface of the epiglottis.

2. The patient underwent a surgical intervention in September and November 2018.

3. In January 2019, due to, physicians decided to start treatment with new recurrence 5mg/mL intrallesional cidofovir, one injection of 10 mg every two weeks.

RESULTS

The elaboration was carried out taking 0.2 mL (15 mg) from the commercial presentation and filling it out with physiological saline solution to get a final volume of 3 mL, resulting in a 5 mg/ml concentration. The mixture was prepared in a vertical laminar flow hood and aseptically-filled into luer-lock syringes, each one containing 1 mL, and the rest of the mixture was thrown out. The preparation was kept in cold storage (2-8 °C). The shelf-life of prefilled syringes for intrallesional administration was limited to 24 hours in order to minimize the risk of microbial contamination.

The patient received six injections of cidofovir from February to May 2019. The child presented good tolerance without reduction of lesions and symptoms, despite a slight dose increase in the last injection. After failure of intrallesional cidofovir, the patient started adjuvant treatment with alpha-2b-interferon and indole-3-carbinol in order to decrease the frequency of papilloma recurrence and reduce the number of surgeries required.

CONCLUSION

The formulation was simple and it did not take long time of preparation. However, the intrallesional administration of cidofovir does not seem to be an effective treatment of RRP, although more studies are required.