

Intralesional IL-2 promising for cutaneous melanoma metastases

23 September 2015



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(HealthDay)—Patients with cutaneous melanoma metastases have excellent response to intralesional interleukin 2 (IL-2) administered concomitantly with topical imiquimod and a retinoid cream, according to a case series published in the October issue of the *Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology*.

Vivian Y. Shi, M.D., from the University of California in Davis, and colleagues examined the effectiveness of intralesional IL-2 combined with topical imiquimod and a retinoid cream in a retrospective case series of 11 patients with cutaneous metastatic melanoma.

The researchers found that for all 11 patients treated with this proposed regimen there was a 100 percent complete local response rate with long-term follow-up (average of 24 months). Absence of malignant cells was confirmed with biopsy specimens of treated sites. Rigors was the most common treatment-related adverse event.

"Intralesional IL-2 administered concomitantly with topical imiquimod and a retinoid cream is a promising therapeutic option for managing cutaneous melanoma metastases," the authors write. "The regimen was well tolerated and should be considered as a reasonable alternative to surgical excision."

APA citation: Intralesional IL-2 promising for cutaneous melanoma metastases (2015, September 23)
retrieved 28 April 2021 from
<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2015-09-intralesional-il-cutaneous-melanoma-metastases.html>

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