

CLINICAL EVALUATION OF CAUSTICUM IN VERRUCAE PLANA

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Summary

100 cases of verrucae plana on the face were treated with causticum, a homeopathic drug. The results are encouraging and no side effect of the drug was noticed during this trial. This drug had no beneficial effect on 10 cases of verrucae vulgaris.

Introduction

Treatment of multiple lesions of verrucae plana specially of the face is not satisfactory. A chance observation of two cases of persistent verrucae plana which were cured by causticum prompted us to try causticum in 100 patients with verrucae plana and 10 cases with verrucae vulgaris during a span of two years. Causticum is a homeopathic drug known to have curative effect on warts. During this trial of 110 cases there were negligible side effects of the drug which gave encouraging results.

Material and Methods

100 patients with verrucae plana attending the skin out patient department during a period of two years were chosen for the study. There were 60 female and 40 male patients. They were in the age group of 4-45

years. 80% of the cases were below 20 years of age. All had multiple verrucae plana on the face. Following dosage schedules were used.

Dose in adults (12 years and above)

1st day 200 P — 8th day 1000 P, 15th day 1000 P and 22nd day 10,000 P.

Dose in Children (4 — 12 years)

1st day 200 P. 8th day 200 P. 15th day 500 P and 22nd day 500 — 1000 P according to the age of the child.

Results

Patients were examined seven days after each dose i. e. before the next dose. Clinical examination was done (No. of warts in certain area counted as a guide). In nine patients No. of plane warts decreased after the first dose. In three patients plane warts became less prominent. In 28 patients warts almost disappeared with the second dose. In another 23 patients verrucae disappeared after the third dose. In 10 patients, only 60 — 70% of the warts disappeared even after the fourth dose. Little response was noted in 16 patients even after the fourth dose and 23 patients had no effect.

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No. of Patients	Excellent response All lesions disappeared	Very good response All lesions disappeared except 2-4	Good response Almost 60-70% of the lesions disappeared	Little response few lesions disappeared	No response no lesions disappeared
Female — 60	23	12	4	6	13
Male — 40	10	6	6	10	10
Total: 100	33	18	10	16	23

No important side effect was noted during this therapy. Only 4 patients complained of giddiness for a day or two. 51% of verrucae plana were cured with causticum and 10% showed

good response. Cases of verrucae vulgaris showed no response to this therapy. On the whole results are encouraging and more cases should be studied for proper evaluation.

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— *Managing Editor*