



INFECTIOUS DISEASES (BACTERIAL, FUNGAL, VIRAL, PARASITIC, INFESTATIONS)

ELECTROSURGERY AS ADJUVANT THERAPY FOR CUTANEOUS SPOROTRICHOSIS

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Introduction: Sporotrichosis is a subacute mycosis with a worldwide distribution caused by dimorphic fungi of the *Sporothrix schenckii* complex. As an emergent disease, the incidence has been on the rise, particularly in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Treatment usually requires long-term (average four months) administration of itraconazole, potassium iodide, terbinafine or amphotericin B. However, have cases that this treatment is not enough to achieve clinical cure. Than cryosurgery with liquid nitrogen, thermotherapy and excisional surgery are necessary as adjuvant therapies. In this study, we emphasize electrosurgery as an adjuvant treatment of cutaneous sporotrichosis, with excellent results and not previously reported.

Objective: Expand therapeutic options for patients who do not respond only with pharmacological treatment.

Materials and Methods: Electrosurgery was indicated for patients with clinical and epidemiological cases compatible with localized, lymphocutaneous and mucosal-cutaneous sporotrichosis. All cases had positive histopathology and culture. They were previously treated with pharmacological therapy with partial or without improvement or who did not tolerate orally prescribed drugs or had adverse effects. We used the biterminal electrosurgery unit (WEM HF 120), with monopolar pen with 20 watts for coagulation and after that we used an oval curette to remove the material. All of them used antifungal in the preoperative period.

Results: We treated five patients, one male and four females. In all cases, only one cycle of electrosurgery with curettage was necessary to achieve cure. It was observed that patients' aesthetic aspect remained satisfactory during and after the outpatient follow-up.





Conclusions: Surgery is not the first-line treatment for sporotrichosis, is considered an adjuvant therapy and used only in refractory cases to clinical treatment. Electrosurgery has the advantage in reducing treatment time (only one cycle), the cost and possible adverse effects of the pharmacological treatment. It is easy and simple to perform, maintaining the function and local aesthetic.

