IMPRESSIVE ERADICATION OF CHERRY ANGIOMAS WITH A LONG PULSED 940 NM DIODE LASER

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Objectives:

To evaluate the efficacy of a long pulse 940 nm diode laser (Dornier MedTech, Wessling, Germany) to effectively treat cherry angiomas, cosmetic vascular lesions that commonly appear with age.

Patients/Methods:

Fifty patients (14 male; 36 female) with Fitzpatrick Skin Types I - III underwent 940 nm laser treatment to remove 5,419 cosmetically objectionable cherry angiomas. The overwhelming majority of lesions (98.2%) were located on the trunk & extremities with 99 (1.8%) lesions located on the face. The 940 nm diode laser was used with a 0.5 spot size, fluences of 356 - 1324 J/cm², and pulse durations of 10 - 30 ms. Fluences of 611 - 917 J/cm² were most commonly used. Zimmer rapid air-cooling was used to provide patient comfort during treatment as well as to provide epidermal protection. Anaesthetic cream provided additional patient comfort. The mean patient follow-up period was 21 months. Results were assessed clinically and documented photographically.

Results:

The 940 nm laser achieved impressive *non-purpuric* clearing of 5,418 (99.98%) cherry angiomas with a *single* treatment. Lesions have not recurred in over 3 years of follow-up. There were no instances of infection or scarring.

Conclusion:

The 940 nm diode laser with Zimmer rapid air-cooling was highly efficacious in safely treating cherry angiomas regardless of location with long lasting and cosmetically excellent results.