Comparing the Results of Classic Treatment of Pemphigus Vulgaris with that of Cyclophosphamide and Corticosteroid Pulse Therapy

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ABSTRACT

Background and Objectives: Pemphigus vulgaris with chronic presented mucocutaneous bulla and erosions is the most prevalent form of chronic bullus diseases all over the world. It would be fatal if remains untreated or delayed. The treatment has always been controversial. This study was concluded to make comparison between the results of conventional treatment (oral corticosteroids and immuran) and that of cyclophosphamide and corticosteroid pulse therapy.

Materials and Methods: This study is a longitudinal randomized clinical trial. Patients were randomly selected. In this survey we analyzed the results of randomized treatments in 85 patients who were hospitalized in dermatology ward of Sina hospital from 1995 to 2001 during 4 months after treatment.

Results: Of 80 patients enrolled, 60 were treated with conventional therapy. About which 37 (61.4%) patients showed complete remission, 16 (28.7%) noted partial improvement and 6 (10.8%) patients showed no changes in their disease course. The rest of the patients (25 individuals) were treated with the second method. Of 24 patients (96%) showed complete remission and in one patient (4%) no improvement was observed. Most of the patients were aged between 40 and 50 years. The average time of hospitalization for conventional and cyclophosphamide pulse therapy was 42±8/5 and 16±1 respectively.

Conclusion: According to statistical methods we concluded that pulse therapy would be more efficient as well as harboring less complications. The average time of hospitalization was lower in those with pulse therapy than those with conventional treatment. So it would be prudent to evaluate more patients with pulse therapy and analyze the results in prospective studies.

Key words: pemphigus vulgaris, Classic, Treatment, Pulse therapy