Intramuscular triamcinolone for acute hidradenitis suppurativa flares

G Benedt, TM Andinoso, K Campion and SR Cohen
Division of Dermatology, Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, New York, United States

Hidradenitis suppurativa (HS) is a chronic, recurrent, immune-mediated follicular disease managed by wide-ranging therapies, including anti-inflammatory drugs. Among these modalities, intramuscular triamcinolone (IMTAC) therapy is commonly used in patients with HS flares, with little evidence to support its use in this indication.

While consent forms fulfill legal requirements by reviewing risks and benefits of treatments, consent forms were very difficult to read. FKGL scores ranged from 9th to 17th grade reading difficulty, and the recommended 6th grade reading level. Our results demonstrate that consent forms require a high degree of literacy such as those who are elderly, social or ethnic minorities, or those of a low socioeconomic status. Improved understanding improves patient adherence and outcomes, and there is a need for consent forms that promote inclusivity and understanding. More research is needed to develop clearer solutions for creating accessible consent forms for all patients.

Dermatology consent form readability: A barrier to comprehension and inclusivity

A Faletsky1, JH Han1, SJ Lit1, K Lee1, Y Solomon1, M Stephens1, J Koi1 and A Mostaghimi1
1 Dermatology, Texas A&M University College of Medicine and National Taiwan University College of Medicine, Houston, Massachusetts, United States, 2 Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine, Maywood, Illinois, United States, 3 Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, Massachusetts, United States, 4 Columbia University Department of Dermatology, New York, New York, United States and 5 Stanford University Department of Dermatology, Stanford, California, United States

While consent forms fulfill legal requirements by reviewing risks and benefits of treatments, their use in educating patients has been questioned. Determining the readability of consent forms is the first step in examining their utility for patient decision making. This study aims to evaluate readability levels of dermatology consent forms. Consent forms were requested from 27 academic dermatology programs. 11 programs declined to participate, did not respond, used verbal consent or sent pre-printed consent forms. Consent forms were ultimately analyzed. Formatting was standardized and readability was assessed with Fleisch Reading Ease Formula (FREQ, range 1-100, high scores indicate easier readability) and Fleish-Kincaid Grade Level (FKGL, correlates to educational grade reading level) through Microsoft Word. Average FREQ was 34.4 ± 6.9 and FKGL was 13.8 ± 2.0, indicating that consent forms were very difficult to read. FKGL scores ranged from 9th to 17th grade reading levels. %

Comparison of patient satisfaction after the laser treatment of female hirsutism: Low fluence or high fluence?

F Eftekhari1, M Ebrahimzadeh Ardakani1, M Azad1, N Ghane1, T Nagoubi2 and A Sugg1
1 Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Amarillo, Texas, United States, 2 Department of Dermatology, Stahel Sadiqui University of Medical Sciences, Yazd, Yazd (the Islamic Republic of Iran)

Excessive hair growth manifests as hirsutism and hypertrichosis. Different types of laser treatments have been applied to treat hirsutism. This study aimed to evaluate and compare the satisfaction and side effects of patients who have been treated with two laser therapy techniques: high fluence (BLEND) and low fluence (FDP+BLEND). In this cross-sectional study, the medical records of 182 patients referred to Yazd Laser Center were reviewed. Various side effects of laser therapy were assessed, and the satisfaction rate of the patients was evaluated in three phases: after the first session, at the end of the treatment course, and six months after the end of the treatment. Moreover, three types of skin complications were investigated: burn blisters and ulcers, folliculitis, and the burn blisters are detected in 10 patients vs. 3 patients for BLEND and FDP+BLEND respectively (P-value < 0.017). The frequency of skin burn was 4 patients and 1 patient for BLEND and FDP+BLEND respectively (P-value = 0.16). The frequency of infection was 48 patients for BLEND and FDP+BLEND respectively (P-value = 0.001). The treatment satisfaction after the first session of the laser treatment was higher in the FDP+BLEND technique (P-value < 0.001). The satisfaction level at the end of the treatment was the same in the two groups (P-value = 0.394). However, six months after the end of the treatment, satisfaction level was higher in the BLEND technique (P-value = 0.005). The number of treatment sessions was lower in the BLEND technique. The low fluence BLEND (FDP+BLEND) method of laser therapy has fewer complications and greater patient satisfaction.

Patient-Targeted Research | ABSTRACTS