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*Efficacy of Low Power Diode Laser GaAlAs (675nm) in
the Treatment of Vitiligo Patients*

*A Dissertation Submitted as Partial Fulfillment for the
Requirement of the Degree of Postgraduate Diploma
In Laser Application in Medicine –Dermatology*

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ABSTRACT

Vitiligo is a depigmentary disorder and can be classified into two distinct types: the segmental vitiligo (SV) and the non-segmental vitiligo. While non-segmental vitiligo is often associated with autoimmune diseases, segmental vitiligo occurs in a dermatomal or quasi-dermatomal distribution and is associated sympathetic dysfunction which has significant effects on cutaneous blood flow. Low level laser therapy (Visible light) is a treatment option for segmental vitiligo, and visible light-induced repigmentation is associated normalization of sympathetic dysfunction.

This prospective trial study was done to evaluate the effectiveness and safety of the low level diode laser therapy 675nm for treating vitiligo. The study was carried out in Medical Laser Centre (Sudan University of Science and Technology Institute of Laser) from January - April 2011. Nine clinically confirmed vitiligo patients were enrolled in the study, 3 were generalized vitiligo, 3 were segmental vitiligo and 3 were focal vitiligo. The study group had children predominance with children to adult ratio 2:1.

The diode laser used in the treatment is (Omega laser system Ltd UK). The Omega Xp machine 100, Semiconductor, Gallium- Aluminum Arsenide (GaAlAs), class 3B laser produces non ionizing radiation. Lesions were treated twice weekly; the number of treatments was ranged from 6–19 sessions. Treatment was done by using single visible red probe wavelength 675nm, power 20mW, in standard mode with spot size 0.125cm^2 , power density 0.24 cm^2 , energy density per point 3J/cm^2 for 20 seconds and pulsing repetition rate 146Hz.

Poor repigmentation was less than 25% with no satisfaction occurred in 2(22.2%) localized patients (one segmental and other focal vitiligo). Erythema, telangiectasia, hypopigmentation, depigmentation and progression of the disease occurred in 2 segmental vitiligo patients. All 3 generalized patients had no repigmentation. The low level diode lasers (630nm, 1J/cm² and 635nm, 3J/cm²) and He-Ne laser (632.8nm, 3J/cm²) have shown better results when compared with our study, this mean that the wavelength may play a role in the results of this study.

The study has shown less effectiveness, erythema, telangiectasia, and depigmentation. Further studies are required with more number of patients and sessions to confirm these results. In the future the use of low level diode laser in treatment of vitiligo can be used with low energy density and short wavelength to give better results.

ملخص البحث

البهاق أو البرص أحد الأمراض الجلدية المنتشرة في العالم ويعرف تحديداً بزوال اللون الطبيعي للجلد على شكل بقع لونية واضحة نتيجة فقدان الخلايا الملونة التي تنتج مادة الميلانين، والتي توجد بشكل أساسي و طبيعي في الجلد وفي حويصلات الشعر والفم والعيون وبعض من الأجزاء العصبية المركزية. وينقسم البهاق إلى نوعين، منتشر (شاملاً للجسم كله) ويكون مرتبط بالامراض ذاتي المناعه، كما قد يكون مستقر¹ أو ثابت في مكان واحد وهذا النوع مرتبط بالعطل العصبي. ولقد وجد أن الليزرات ذات القدرة المنخفضه (ذات اللون الاحمر المرئي) هي احدى الخيارات العلاجيه للبهاق الثابت او المستقر.

هدفت هذه الدراسه الى التعرف على فعاليه الديود ليزر (675nm) ذي القدرة المنخفضه في علاج البهاق والتعرف على الاثار الجانبية له.

اجريت هذه الدراسه العمليه فى مركز الليزر الطبى معهد الليزر بجامعة السودان للعلوم والتكنولوجيا فى (9) حالات من مرضى البهاق فى الفترة ما بين 25 يناير وحتى 24 ابريل وكانت (3) حالات من النوع المنتشر و6 حالات من النوع المستقر. وشكلت الفئه العمرية الاقل من 16 عام نسبه 66.7% وكانت كلها حالات مستقره.

يصنف جهاز الديود ليزر ثالثا حسب قدره الجهاز ويعطي اشعاعا غير مؤين. ولقد استعملت فى الجلسه العلاجيه قدره mW 20 وطاقة J/cm^2 3 وزمن تعرض للليزر 20 ثانية وتردد قدره Hz 146. وتراوح عدد الجلسات ما بين 6-19 جلسه بمعدل جلستين اسبوعيا. وكانت

نسبة رجوع اللون الطبيعي ضعيفه فى 2 من المرضى الاقل من 16 عام ذوو الحالات المستقره ولم تكن هنالك نسبة من الرضاء او القبول ، وايضا هنالك ظهور لشعيرات دمويه واحمرار دائم بالإضافة الى تفتح وزوال فى اللون الطبيعي فى المرضى ذو المكان الواحد. لا توجد استجابه فى (3) ذو الحالات المنتشر.

ولقد اعطت دراسات سابقه للديود ليزر ذو القدرة المنخفضه (1J/cm^2 , 630nm) و (3J/cm^2 , 635nm) نتائج ايجابيه وجيدة مقارنه وايضا الهيليوم نيون (3J/cm^2 , 632.8 nm) وبهذا يؤكد ان الطول الموجى له دور فعال فى هذه النتيجه. وقد خلصت هذه الدراسه الى ضرورة زياده عدد المرضى وعدد الجلسات واستعمال طول موجى قصير وطاقة اقل للحصول على نتائج جيدة فى المستقبل.

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