### Sudan University of Science & Technology Institute of Laser College of Postgraduate Studies



The efficacy of Neodimmium—ytrium-aluminium garnet (Nd: YAG) 1064 nm laser in the treatment of Pseudofolliculitis Barbae and Acne Keloidals Nuchae

A dissertation submitted as partial fulfillment for the requirements of the Degree of Postgraduate Diploma in Laser Application in Medicine-Dermatology

By:

# Dr. Halima Ahmed Salih Abu Samra

Membership of Dermatology (Sudan Medical Specialization Board, 2006)

**Supervisors:** 

Dr. Babikir Osman El Bashir

phD of Laser
Sudan University of Sciences & Technology

Dr. Yousif Safi Eldin

MD. Dermatology Sudan University of Sciences & Technology

May 2009

# CONTENTS

	Page No
Dedication	i
Acknowledgement	ii
Abstract	iii
Abstract in Arabic	V
List of figures	vi
List of tables	vii
CHAPTER ONE	
1. INTRODUCTION AND LITERATURE REVIEW	
Section (I)	
1.1. Introduction	1
1.1.1. Embryology of hair follicles	2
1.1.2. Anatomy of hair follicle	3
1.1.3. The hair cycle	9
Section (II)	
1.2. Pseudofolliculitis Barbae	11
1.2.1. Definition	11
1.2.2. History	11
1.2.3. Skin findings	12
1.2.4. Phenotype predisposition	12
1.2.5. Histopathology	12
1.2.6. Laboratory	12
1.2.7. Diagnosis	13
1.2.8. Differential diagnosis	13
1.2.9. Treatment	13

1.2.10. Other measures of treatment	14
1.3. Folliculitis keloidalis (acne keloidalis nuchae)	15
1.3.1. Definition:	15
1.3.2. Etiology	15
1.3.3. Associations	16
1.3.4. Pathology (Histopathology)	16
1.3.5. Clinical features	16
1.3.6. Treatment	17
1.4. Laser fundamentals	18
1.4.1. Laser history	18
1.4.2. Laser physics	20
1.4.3. Laser types	22
1.4.3.1. Solid-state lasers	23
1.4.3.2. Gas lasers	23
1.4.3.3. Excimer lasers	23
1.4.3.4. Dye lasers	23
1.4.3.5. Semiconductor lasers	24
1.4.3.6. CW lasers	24
1.4.3.7. Pulsed lasers	24
1.4.4. Laser Parameters	24
1.4.4.1. Power density	24
1.4.4.2. Fluence	25
and a state of an atla	25

1.4.4.3. Wavelength

1.4.5. Laser biophysics	26
1.4.5.1. Properties of Laser Light	26
1.4.5.2. Laser Beam Modalities	26
1.4.5.3. Laser delivery systems	27
1.4.6. Lasers in common medical use	27
1.4.6.1. CO <sub>2</sub> Laser	28
1.4.6.2. Argon Laser	29
1.4.6.3. YAG Lasers	29
1.4.6.4. Ruby Laser	31
1.4.6.5. Alexandrite Laser	32
1.4.6.6. Pulsed Dye Laser	32
1.4.6.7. Copper Vapor Laser	33
1.4.6.8. Diode Lasers	33
1.4.6.9. Excimer Lasers	34
1.4.7. Selective Photothermolysis	34
1.4.8. Effect of laser on tissues	36
1.5. Literature review	38
1.6. OBJECTIVES	46
1.6.1. General objective	46
1.6.2. Specific objectives	46
CHAPTER TWO	
2. PATIENTS AND METHODS	47
2.1. Study population	47
2.2. Study area	47
2.3. Study period	47
2.4. Sample size .	47

2.4.1. Inclusion criteria	47
2.4.2. Exclusion criteria	47
2.5. Research tools and techniques	48
2.6. Ethical considerations	49
2.7. Data analysis	49
CHAPTER THREE	
3 - RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	50
3° CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	53
REFERENCES	64

#### **ABSTRACT**

This study intends to make use of neodimum yuttrium aluminium garnet (Nd: YAG) lazer as a cure for pseudofolliculitis barbae and acne keloidalis nuchae (AKN).

For this study a number of nine patients diagnosed as cases of PFB or AKN were enrolled. The laser device used is available in the institute of laser-Sudan University of Sciences and technology, Khartoum Sudan, where the study was conducted. The study was performed between February and May 2009. Laser system used Nd: YAG laser with wavelength 1064 nm manufactured by Dornier Medilas. Nd: YAG laser parameters used were the standard mode, non contact application of bare fibre with a power of 60 Watts, exposure time 0.2 seconds.

All patients were treated under topical anesthesia. A questionnaire was designed and filled for each patient. Patients were submitted to weekly sessions. Lesions, changes were recorded in each visit. The treatment results were assessed according to reduction in number of papules and pustules as well as the side effects encountered during the study.

The results were classified as follows:

Good results: there is significant reduction in the number of papules and pustules (approximately 80% of the pre-existing lesions disappeared,, without hypopigmentation.

Moderate results: The patients showed moderate reduction in number of papules and pustules (60% of the pre-existing lesions disappeared) but with hypopigmentation.



Patients who showed good results were 6 patients.

Patients who showed moderate results were three patients.

All patients included in this study signed a written informed consent before submission to sessions.

All patients were satisfied with the improvement.



#### مستخلص الاطروحة

هدفت هذه الدراسة إلى الاستفاده من ليزر الياج في شفاء جريبات أشعار اللحية الكاذب والعد الجدري على القفا.

شملت الدراسة ٩ مرضى تم تشخيصهم إما بإلتهاب جريبات اللحية الكاذب أو العد الجدري على القفا.

استخدم في هذه الدراسة جهاز ليزر الياج بمعهد الليزر جامعة السودان للعلوم والتكنولوجيا، في الفترة من قبراير إلى مايو ٢٠٠٩م، بالمقاييس الأتية: - طول موجي ١٠٦٤ نانومتر ماركة دورنير ميديلاس، معيار استاندرد، تطبيق الليف الضوئي بدون ملامسة لسطح الجلد، قدرة ٢٠٠ واط، تعريض زمني ٢٠٠ ثانية.

تم معالجة جميع المرضى تحت تأثير التخدير الموضعي بعد موافقتهم، تم ملىء استمارة الإستبان المعد لهذا الغرض، تم إعطاء المرضى جلسات اسبوعية، تم رصد متغيرات المرض في كل زيارة.

وضع تقييم نتيجة العلاج بناء على إنخفاض عدد الحطاطات والبثور مع وجود او عدم وجود نقص التصبغ كتأثير جانبي.

قسمت نتائج العلاج كالآتى:

- نتيجة جيدة في حالة إستجابة هائلة لأكثرية البثور والحطاطات (٨٠٠).
- نتيجة معتدله في حالة إستجابة معتدلة في عدد البثور و الحطاطات (٦٠%) ولكن مع وجود نقص التصبغ.
  - عدد المرضى الذين ظهرت عليهم نتيجة جيده ٦ مرضى .
  - عدد المرضى الذين ظهرت عليهم نتيجة معتدله ٣ مرضى.
    - كانت النتيجة مرضية لجميع المرضى.