

Evaluation of intralesional 0.2% ciprofloxacin as a treatment for cutaneous leishmaniasis

Abstract

Although cutaneous leishmaniasis lesions usually heal spontaneously they cause unsightly scarring. This study evaluated a possible new therapy in 38 patients, with 70 lesions, randomly assigned to intralesional injection of ciprofloxacin (0.2%) or intralesional sodium chloride hypertonic solution (7%). After excluding patients who defaulted on treatment, lesions assigned to sodium chloride treatment (n = 21) were completely healed (with or without scarring) in 76.2% of cases, and, when a scar remained, the scar size was reduced 66.0% compared with the original lesion. Lesions assigned to ciprofloxacin (n = 27) showed an 81.5% healing rate with an average scar size reduction of 68.6%. Intralesional 0.2% ciprofloxacin was as effective as hypertonic saline in the treatment of cutaneous leishmaniasis infection.