

The Use of Tetracycline Sclerotherapy as an Option in Management of the Refractory Postmastectomy Seroma.

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Abstract

Seroma is the commonest complication after modified radical mastectomy and breast conserving surgery. Management of post mastectomy seroma can be difficult and frustrating for both patient and physician. The aim of this study was to evaluate the efficiency and safety of tetracycline sclerotherapy in the treatment of refractory post mastectomy seroma.

Forty four female patients after modified radical mastectomy and breast conserving surgery developed persistent post mastectomy seroma and were managed with tetracycline sclerotherapy on an outpatient basis through installation of 1 gm tetracycline diluted in 25 ml normal saline plus 10 ml lidocaine 2% after aspiration of the seroma. Results were analyzed as regard amount of seroma, number of sclerotherapy session required to achieve cure, any side effects recorded and whether the patient was satisfied with the procedure or not.

Resolution was achieved in 28 (63.6%) patients after single dose of sclerotherapy and 13 (29.5%) patients were cured after two sessions, while 3 (6.8%) patients required a third TCN sclerotherapy to achieve cure. 91% of patients were satisfied while 9% were not because of severe pain.

Conclusion: tetracycline sclerotherapy is a simple, effective, cheap and safe method of treatment of refractory postmastectomy seroma with no serious side effects.