Clinical Pathway for Management of Actinic Keratosis

Diagnosis of AK

Recommend the use of UV protection

Individualized treatment assessment considering:
- Lesion Type: few or isolated vs multiple lesions and/or field cancerization
- Treatment adverse effects
- Patient preferences

TOPICAL TREATMENT

Field-directed Therapy

5-fluorouracil

Imiquimod

Diclofenac

Note: As with other oral and topical medications in the class, NSAIDs carry a black box warning for cardiovascular and gastrointestinal side effects

Tirbanibulin

PHOTODYNAMIC THERAPY (PDT)

ALA-red light PDT
1 to 4-hour 5-ALA incubation time is recommended to enhance complete clearance

ALA-blue light-PDT
Note: recommend against pretreatment with alpha hydroxy acid solution prior to ALA-blue light PDT
Note: recommend against the addition of imiquimod following ALA-blue light PDT

ALA-daylight PDT
Note: ALA-daylight PDT is less painful than but equally as effective as ALA-red light PDT

CRYOSURGERY
Primary approach for isolated AK lesions

Combination Therapy
- Recommend the combined use of 5-FU and cryosurgery over cryosurgery alone
- Recommend the combined use of imiquimod and cryosurgery over cryosurgery alone
- Recommend against the use of diclofenac in addition to cryosurgery compared to cryosurgery alone
- Recommend against the use of topical adapalene in addition to cryosurgery compared to cryosurgery alone

Abbreviations:
ALA = aminolevulinic acid
FU = fluorouracil
Please use clinical pathway in conjunction with the recommendations and discussions in the guideline

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