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CATEGORY : NON - VASCULAR INTERVENTION

TITLE

Cryoablation in Recalcitrant Desmoid Tumors

BACKGROUND

Desmoid tumors are highly aggressive rare musculoaponeurotic tumors which often recur after treatment. Conventional treatments include surgical resection, radiation, systemic therapy, and neoadjuvant radiation with or without chemotherapy. Reported mean local failure rates of 22%, 35%, and 28% for radiation alone, surgery alone, and radiation plus surgery, respectively. Reported mean stable disease rates of 91% and 52% for cytotoxic and noncytotoxic chemotherapy, respectively. Cryoablation can be used in isolation or as adjuvant to chemotherapy/radiotherapy in large, recalcitrant desmoids to promote faster tumor necrosis and shrinkage from critical structures. It also helps in long term control of tumor progression. We present our experience with percutaneous cryoablation of desmoid tumors with the objective of showing the safety and efficacy of this treatment.

METHODS

Seventeen patients with symptomatic and recurrent progressive desmoid tumors in post resection and chemotherapy who underwent percutaneous cryoablation, from September 2012 to September 2023. The desmoids were in anatomically challenging locations. Patients were evaluated in an interdisciplinary tumor conference before being referred for cryoablation. Percutaneous image guided cryoablation was performed using Argon and Helium gases in a single or staged sessions. Pre procedure and follow up clinical and imaging evaluation was done to assess outcome.

RESULT

12 males and 9 female mean 12.5 years, with 21 discrete desmoid tumors underwent a total of 34 percutaneous cryoablation procedures. All patients with pain reported reduction in pain and 90% patients with limited ROM had improved muscle strength and improved ROM with physical therapy. Discomfort resolved in 66.7%. Four (12%) treatments were associated with minor complications.

CONCLUSIONS

Percutaneous image guided cryoablation is feasible and effective and can be offered as a local control option early in the treatment of desmoid tumors.

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