Laser Surgery in Haemophilia

A.M.	Musajo	Somma
N.		Ciavarella
A.		Scaraggi
T.		Ripa

Plastic Surgery Department, University of Bari, Italy

A. Musajo Somma, Department of Plastic, Surgery and Haemophilia Centre, Polyclinic University Hospital, Bari (Italy)

The CO₂ laser is being used routinely in all fields of surgery and has a definite use in surgery carried out on patients with bleeding tendencies.

In September 1979 a 15-month-old B severe haemophiliac (factor IX 1%) presented a massive soft tissue pseudotumor on his left parietal-temporal area due to repeated trauma. This very young patient was referred to the Haemophilia Centre 30 days later. A 15 U/kg of factor IX infusion was given pre-op; the CO₂ laser technique allowed a speedy, bloodless surgical removal of the pseudotumor and recovery from general anesthesia was uneventful. Five infusions of factor IX concentrates were given in

U/ml

U/ml

1000

Fig. 1. Patient Ci.Ro. (ordinate inhibitor U/ml plasma, abscissa months of treatment). Treatment: 35 U/kg body weight of cryoprecipitate per week.

H 1 1 1-
6

NEZø.

Fig. 2. Patient NeZø.: Treated with 3 units of high purity factor VIII per kilogram body weight per week.

228

Musajo Somma/Ciavarella/Scaraggi/Ripa

U/ml

Fig. 3. Patient PFa.: Treated with 4 units of high purity factor VIII per kilogram body weight per week. After a booster dose of 15.000 units (month 9) his inhibitor remained below 2 units per ml plasma.

7 8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 1979 1980

JLTo.

Fig. 5. Patient JLTo. was initially treated with cryoprecipitate 40 units per kilogram body weight 3 times per week. Late in month 4, 1980 he received a large dose of high purity factor VIII and the inhibitor rose. He is now on cryoprecipitate 40 units per kilogram twice a week and high purity factor VIII 10 units per kilogram once a week.

U/ml

the next 72 h; sutures were removed 8 days after surgery and healing was perfect having no secondary bleeding.

Besides the surgical advantages of this new equipment we feel that laser surgery can help to reduce costs of therapy for haemophilic patients. This is the first reported case in which the procedure has been carried out in so young a child.