



Angiomas and Fibrous Papules – Electrodesiccation

Electrodesiccation involves the use of an unheated electrode which passes a high-frequency low-amperage electric current to cause superficial dehydration of the tissue with direct contact.

I generally treat small angiomas quickly without local anaesthetic. For larger lesions, I use injected local anaesthetic (1% xylocaine with adrenalin buffered with sodium bicarbonate).

I use a Hyfracator 2000 on a high setting of 2 W. A very light touch is needed just to the point where the red vessels disappear. Too much energy and pressure can leave a small scar. If it is a larger lesion, it may be hypopigmented or atrophic on the face.

Smaller Fibrous papules, particularly if they are very erythematous, can be treated with this technique. Local anaesthetic is usually required as these are on the face and may require higher power to clear the tissue component as well as the vessels.

Although not an absolute contraindication, patients who have cardiac pacemakers and implantable cardiac defibrillators should be monitored. Lower power settings and short bursts of energy (less than 5 seconds) should be used, and the area around the cardiac device should be avoided.



PRESENTED BY
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Buslach N, Foulad DP, Saedi N, Mesinkovska NA. Treatment modalities for cherry angiomas: A systematic review. *Dermatol Surg* 2020;46(12):1691–1697.