Blue light phototherapy safe, effective for acne vulgaris

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Christina Antoniou, M.D., from the University of Athens in Greece, and colleagues randomly selected one patient hemiface to receive six weeks of twice-weekly treatment with the LED light and the photo-converter chromophores, while the contralateral hemiface was not treated. All patients were provided with a skin cleanser and non-comedogenic cream with ultraviolet protection to be used on the entire face. Patients were followed for an additional six weeks after completion of the six-week treatment period.

The researchers found that 51.7 percent of the patients had a reduction of at least two grades in the Investigator's Global Assessment (IGA) scale at week 12. Patients with a baseline IGA grade of 3 and 4 had a success rate (grade drop of 2 or more) of 45.3 and 61.1 percent, respectively, at 12 weeks. These results were confirmed in acne inflammatory lesion counts, with a reduction of at least 40 percent in 81.6 percent of treatment hemifaces after 12 weeks. Treatment was safe and well tolerated, with no serious adverse events.

"The BioPhotonic System comprised of LED blue-light phototherapy and photo-converter chromophores was found to be efficacious and safe, with a sustained clinical response at 12 weeks," the authors write.

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More information: Abstract Full Text

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