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308 nm excimer lamp versus 308 nm excimer laser for treating vitiligo: a randomized study.

Le Duff F, Fontas E, Giacchero D, Sillard L, Lacour JP, Ortonne JP, Passeron T.

Department of Dermatology, University Hospital of Nice, France.

Abstract

Abstract The 308nm excimer lasers and 308nm excimer lamps have both been shown to be effective in treating vitiligo but a direct comparison has never been performed. The objective of the study was to test the equivalence of those two devices for treating non segmental vitiligo. Methods. Randomized monocentric study. One lesion was treated with the 308nm excimer laser and its counterpart with the 308nm excimer lamp. Lesions were treated twice a week with the same doses in both sides for a total of 24 sessions. The evaluation was done by two independent physicians blinded to the treatment on direct light and UV light photos. Results. Twenty patients were included, seventeen completed the study. One hundred and four lesions were treated. The two treatments showed similar results in term of efficacy for a repigmentation of at least 50% (p= .006). The lamp induced more erythema than the laser. Discussion. The 308nm excimer lamp and laser showed a similar efficacy in treating vitiligo. For the same fluence, the lamp induced more erythema suggesting