Overview

[Reflectance confocal microscopy : what future for dermatology?]


ABSTRACT

Reflectance confocal microscopy is a non invasive imaging technique which provides in vivo and real time images of different skin tissues with a resolution close to histology, however with a depth limited to superficial dermis. The first lesions that were morphologically analyzed are melanocytic lesions. Reflectance confocal microscopy has been used for about ten years in dermatology. Its progressive improvement over the years has allowed it to be an efficient tool for diagnosing cutaneous tumors. It has been developed for inflammatory dermatosis, cutaneous infections, angiomas, cosmetology. Furthermore, it is also used to delimit the edges of lesions or the area to biopsy. This cutaneous imaging technique represents a major innovation and has its place in dermatological practice.

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