The Role of Reflectance Confocal Microscopy in Clinical Trials for Tumor Monitoring.


ABSTRACT
Reflectance confocal microscopy (RCM) allows the evaluation with superb accuracy of some skin tumors before, during, and after treatment. In clinical trials RCM has been shown to provide useful information for evaluation of efficacy of topical or systemic medication. With the recent introduction of handheld RCM a fast examination of the tumor can be done in minutes. In patients treated with surgery RCM plays a unique role to precisely map margins of the tumor in the skin surface and for the detection of subclinical recurrences. This article reviews the use of RCM in the research of different skin cancer tumor treatments. Copyright © 2016. Published by Elsevier Inc. KEYWORDS: Clinical trial; Reflectance confocal microscopy; Skin cancer; Tumor monitoring PMID:27692458 DOI:10.1016/j.det.2016.06.001