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Article in French: In vivo reflectance confocal microscopy in dermatology: a proposal concerning French terminology

Kanitakis J, Bahadoran P, Braun R, Debarbieux S, Labeille B, Perrot JL, Vabres P; Groupe d'Imagerie Cutanée Non Invasive de la Société française de dermatologie.; Ann Dermatol Venerol. 2013 Nov;140(11):678-86. doi: 10.1016/j.annder.2013.07.020.

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: Reflectance confocal microscopy (RCM) is a recently introduced non-invasive imaging technique allowing real-time examination of the skin in vivo. Whereas a substantial literature concerning RCM exists in English, so far there is no official terminology in French, despite the fact that an ever-growing number of French-speaking dermatologists now use this new imaging technique. The aim of the present study is to propose a French terminology for RCM in order to allow French-speaking dermatologists to communicate in a precise and homogeneous language on this topic.

METHODS: A group of French-speaking dermatologists with solid experience of RCM, members of the Non-invasive Cutaneous Imaging group of the French Society of Dermatology, endeavored to suggest terms in French concerning RCM. Each group member dealt with a specific paragraph. The members exchanged comments via email and the terminology was finalized during a meeting of the group members in Paris in June 2012. **RESULTS:** Descriptive terms referring to the RCM aspects of normal and diseased skin were proposed. Some of these already existed, being used in routine dermatopathology, while other specific terms were created or adapted from the English terminology.

CONCLUSION: This terminology will allow French-speaking dermatologists using RCM to communicate their findings in a homogeneous language. It may be enriched in the future by the introduction of additional terms describing new aspects of both normal and, especially, diseased skin.