Photodetection of cervical intraepithelial neoplasia

Screening, colposcopy, biopsy, treatment
Optical biopsy
See and treat

Photodetection of cervical intraepithelial neoplasia

•5-aminolevulinic acid-induced porphyrin fluorescence
•Autofluorescence

•Life time imaging

Cervix after acetic acid Pat 10 White Light Mode PDD Mode Cervix PDD Mode PDD Mode

Performance of colposcopy for diagnosis of squamous intraepithelial lesions

First author	Se	Sp
Benedet,1976	0.99	0.53
Benedet, 1991	0.95	0.44
Crisforoni, 1995	0.97	0.35
Edebiri, 1990	0.87	0.67
Ferris, 1993	0.97	0.24
Javaheri, 1980	1.00	0.87
Lozowski, 1982	0.96	0.29
Seshadri, 1990	0.87	0.34
Stafl, 1973	0.99	0.26
Unweighted mean	0.95	0.44
Weighted mean	0.96	0.48

Mitchell MF et al Obstet Gynecol 93 : 462-70, 1999

Photodetection of cervical intraepithelial neoplasia using 5-aminolevulinic acid-induced porphyrin fluorescence

METHODS Sixty-eight women attending our colposcopy clinic underwent a gynecologic examination, including cytology, human papillomavirus (HPV) testing, and colposcopy. They received 10 mL 0.5% or 1.0% 5-aminolevulinic acid (5-ALA) topically. After 30-360 minutes, real-time image analysis was performed, and spectra were obtained from 685 sites.

RESULTS Using 1% 5-ALA, fluorescence imaging after 60-90 minutes achieved similar sensitivity and specificity compared with colposcopy in detecting CIN with 94% and 51% versus 95% and 50%, respectively. However, the specificity was markedly improved by fluorescence spectroscopy, achieving 75%.

Peter Hillemanns et al Cancer 2000, 88 : 2275-82

Haem Biosynthesis



Transport across cell membrane



A logarithmic plot of the octanol/water partition coefficient P of a series of ALA esters



Chainlength (ALA alkylestser)

Principle of fluorescence imaging tumor depth profiling



Principle of fluorescence imaging tumor depth profiling

Homogenous exitation of the fluorochrome concentrated in the tumoral tissue at two different wavelenghts, corresponding to the absorption maxima of the fluochrome (417, 514 nm)

Detection at the emission maxima (610-720 nm)

Penetration depth of light in tissue in relation to the wavelength



Wavelength [nm]

Cervical squamous carcinoma precursors







Fluorescence analysis of CIN after topical application of 0.1% h-ALA





wavelength [nm]

Pat. 12, 10% ALA in 0.9% NaCl, 3h 15 min application time



Fluorescence analysis of healthy tissue after application of 0.1% h-ALA







Representative spatial distribution of 5-ALA induced porphyrin fluorescence related tissue type



Pahernik et al Int J Cancer 78 : 310-314, 1998