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EFFECT OF A CORIOLUS VERSICOLOR-BASED VAGINAL GEL FOR HR-HPV INFECTION IN A 44 YEARS OLD PATIENT WITH 12 YEARS PERSISTENCY

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OBJECTIVE:

Although HPV infections are frequently temporary, in certain individuals (10–15%) viral clearance is challenging, which increases the likelihood of viral persistence, the primary risk factor for developing lesions^{1,2}. Although the factors that determine the persistence of genital HPV infection are still unclear, the viral genotype, vaginal microbiome, histological structure of the cervix, and host's immune system status have been proposed as modulators². Taking into account the modifiable factors associated with HPV peristance, a vaginal gel based on *Coriolus-versicolor* was developed.

The objective of this study was to assess the efficacy of a *Coriolus versicolor*-based vaginal gel treatment for HR-HPV clearance and cyto-normalization in a 44-year-old patient with a more than 10 years HR-HPV persistency history.

METHODS:

Here we describe a clinical case of a 44-year-old woman, who attended for a routine follow-up visit due to a history of persistent infection for 12 years with a HR-HPV and both low and high-grade squamous intraepithelial lesions in the cervix and vagina. The patient was subjected to two excisional therapies (large loop excision of the transformation zone) in 2007 and 2009 and one cervical CO_2 vaporization in 2013 (Figure 1), plus another vaginal vaporization in 2014 (Figure 2,3) which reduced the extension and grade of the lesions.

The follow up of the case showed 4 years of viral persistence with cytological results alternating between low-grade cervical lesions and negative cytology (Figure 4). At the time of the consultation in 2019, she presented with LSIL and positive for HR-HPV type 53. Taking into account that a vaginal gel including *Coriolus versicolor* and other ingredients, has proven to be effective and safe in repairing low-grade cervical lesions and enhancing HPV clearance in several different studies, a conservative treatment with this gel was prescribed (1 cannula/day for 1 month + 1 cannula/alternate days for 5 months)³. Therefore, a conservative treatment with the *Coriolus versicolor*-based vaginal gel was prescribed (1 cannula/day for 1 month + 1 cannula/alternate days for 5 months) in 2019.

1. San José S, Brotons M, Pavón MA, et al. The natural history of human papillomavirus infection. Best Pract Res Clin Obstet Gynaecol. 2018;47:2-13. 2. Rositch A, Koshiol J, Hudgens MG, et al. Patterns of persistent genital human papillomavirus infection among women worldwide: a literature review and meta-analysis. Int J Cancer. 2013; 1336:1271-1285. 3. Serrano L, López AC, González SP, et al. Efficacy of a Coriolus versicolor-based vaginal gel in women with human papillomavirus-dependent cervical lesions: The PALOMA Study. Low Genit Tract Dis. 2021;25:130-136.

RESULTS:

After several surgical procedures and a long history of HR-HPV persistency, the patient achieved complete cyto-normalization and HR-HPV clearance with a 6-month treatment period of the *Coriolus versicolor*-based vaginal gel.

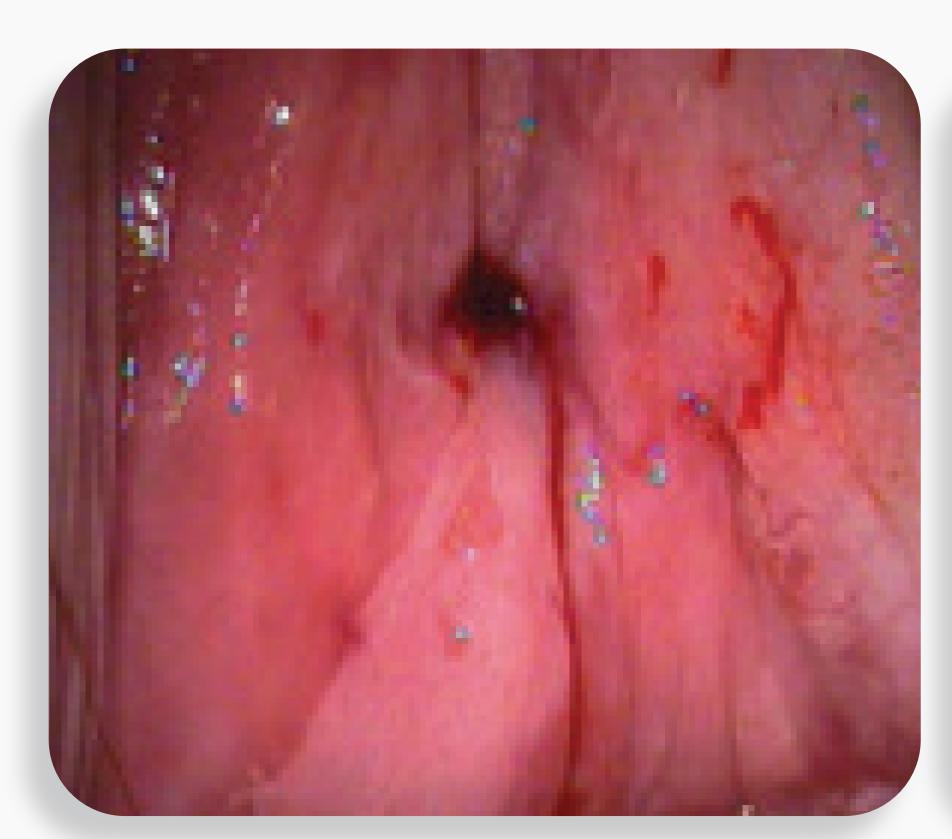






Figure 2,3. Vaginoscopy in January 2014.



Figure 4. Vaginoscopy in January 2015.

CONCLUSION:

This clinical case shows that a conservative non-invasive treatment with a *Coriolus versicolor*-based vaginal gel can be a valuable therapeutic option to achieve the normalization of cytological alterations and HR-HPV clearance in a patient with 12 years of HR-HPV persistency after several excisional and destructive treatments.