



## Newsletter No. 25

### New SOP for electrochemotherapy of cutaneous tumours and skin metastases

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Electrochemotherapy is fast spreading treatment modality throughout Europe and beyond, for treatment of tumours. In thirty years since its first use in the treatment of head and neck tumours in Institute Gustave Roussy by Lluís M. Mir and colleagues, its use in other institutions was facilitated by the preparation of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Electrochemotherapy published in 2006. They have been the driving force of this technology since in the SOP were described all the details how to perform electrochemotherapy on cutaneous tumours or metastases of less than 3 cm in the largest diameter. Since its publication, the SOP for electrochemotherapy have up today been cited more than 240 times.

Due to the spread of the electrochemotherapy in different cancer centres, also its clinical indications have broadened, and the first observation was that electrochemotherapy can be successfully applied also in the treatment of cutaneous tumours that are bigger than 3 cm in their largest diameter. Thereafter the community has also started to discuss possible side effects of the drugs used, and other issues like pre-treatment considerations or indications.

The need for the preparation of updated SOP for electrochemotherapy of cutaneous tumours and skin metastases became obvious already a couple of years ago. The driving force of its preparation was Prof. Dr. Julie Gehl, also one of the most active promoters of electrochemotherapy. She has gathered a panel of experts using electrochemotherapy from different disciplines from dermatology, general surgery, head and neck surgery, plastic surgery, and oncology that formed consensus opinion about the use of electrochemotherapy. The NEW SOP for Electrochemotherapy of cutaneous tumours and skin metastases, therefore, contains the recommendations for indications for electrochemotherapy, pre-treatment information, and evaluation, treatment choices, as well as follow-up.

*See verso for continuation...*

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Since the use of electrochemotherapy is spreading also in the combined treatment with targeted drugs, immunotherapy and also into the treatment of deep-seated tumours in liver, pancreas, bone metastases, we may expect another revision of SOP for electrochemotherapy in quite near future.

1st SOP for electrochemotherapy

Mir LM, Gehl J, SERŠA G, Collins CG, Garbay JR, Billard V, Geertsen P, Rudolf Z, O'Sullivan GC, Marty M. Standard operating procedures of the electrochemotherapy: Instructions for the use of bleomycin or cisplatin administered either systemically or locally and electric pulses delivered by Cliniporator™ by means of invasive or non-invasive electrodes. EJC Suppl 2006; 4: 14-25. doi: 10.1016/j.ejcsup.2006.08.003

2nd, updated SOP for electrochemotherapy

Gehl J, Sersa G, Wichmann Matthiessen L, Muir T, Soden D, Occhini A, Quaglino P, Curatolo P, Campana L, Kunte C, Clover AJP, Bertino G, Farricha V, Odili J, Dahlstrom K, Benazzo M, Mir LM. Updated standard operating procedures for electrochemotherapy of cutaneous tumours and skin metastases. Acta Oncol 2018, doi: 10.1080/0284186X.2018.1454602. [Epub ahead of print]

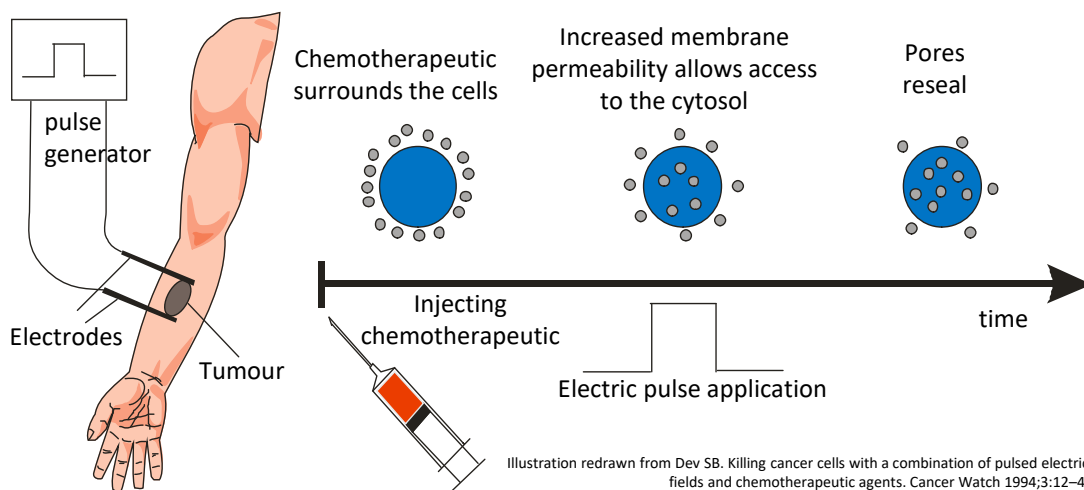


Illustration redrawn from Dev SB. Killing cancer cells with a combination of pulsed electric fields and chemotherapeutic agents. Cancer Watch 1994;3:12-4.

Forthcoming events

Fundamental & Applied Bioelectrics Workshop

Norfolk, July 9 – 12, 2018

http://2018BioelectricsWorkshop.com

International Nonthermal Processing Workshop and Short Course

Sorrento, September 25 – 26, 2018

http://nonthermal.prodalricerche.com

Electroporation-Based Technologies and Treatments

Ljubljana, November 11 – 17, 2018, http://2018.ebtt.org

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