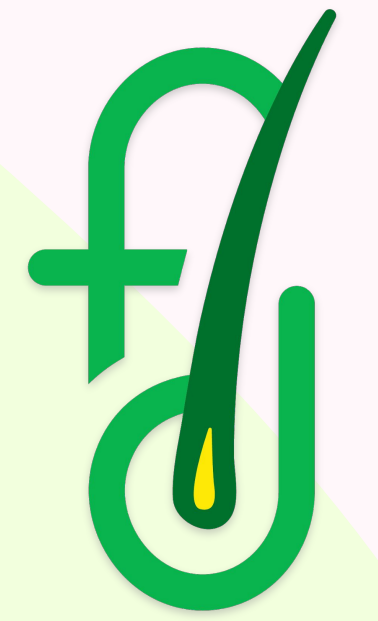


# Cryotherapy as an adjuvant in the treatment with vismodegib for local advanced non surgical basal cell carcinoma: a report of 8 cases



Fundación para la investigación en Dermatología

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## Introduction

Basal cell carcinoma (BCC) is the most prevalent skin cancer worldwide.<sup>1</sup> The most frequently used treatment for BCC is surgical resection.<sup>2</sup> Lately, there are other options for non-surgical BCC, such as hedgehog pathways inhibitors, which are indicated in patients whose cancer is locally advanced and unresectable.<sup>3</sup> We described the response of patients treated with vismodegib and cryotherapy as adjuvant management.

## Materials and methods

We conducted an observational retrospective study in a dermatological center in Bogota, Colombia. We included patients with BCC diagnosis who were treated with vismodegib and cryotherapy from January 2018 to August 2020. Variables included age, sex, phototype, lesion location, treatment duration, number of cryotherapies, months of follow-up and histological subtypes. Variables were analyzed using Microsoft Excel 2016.

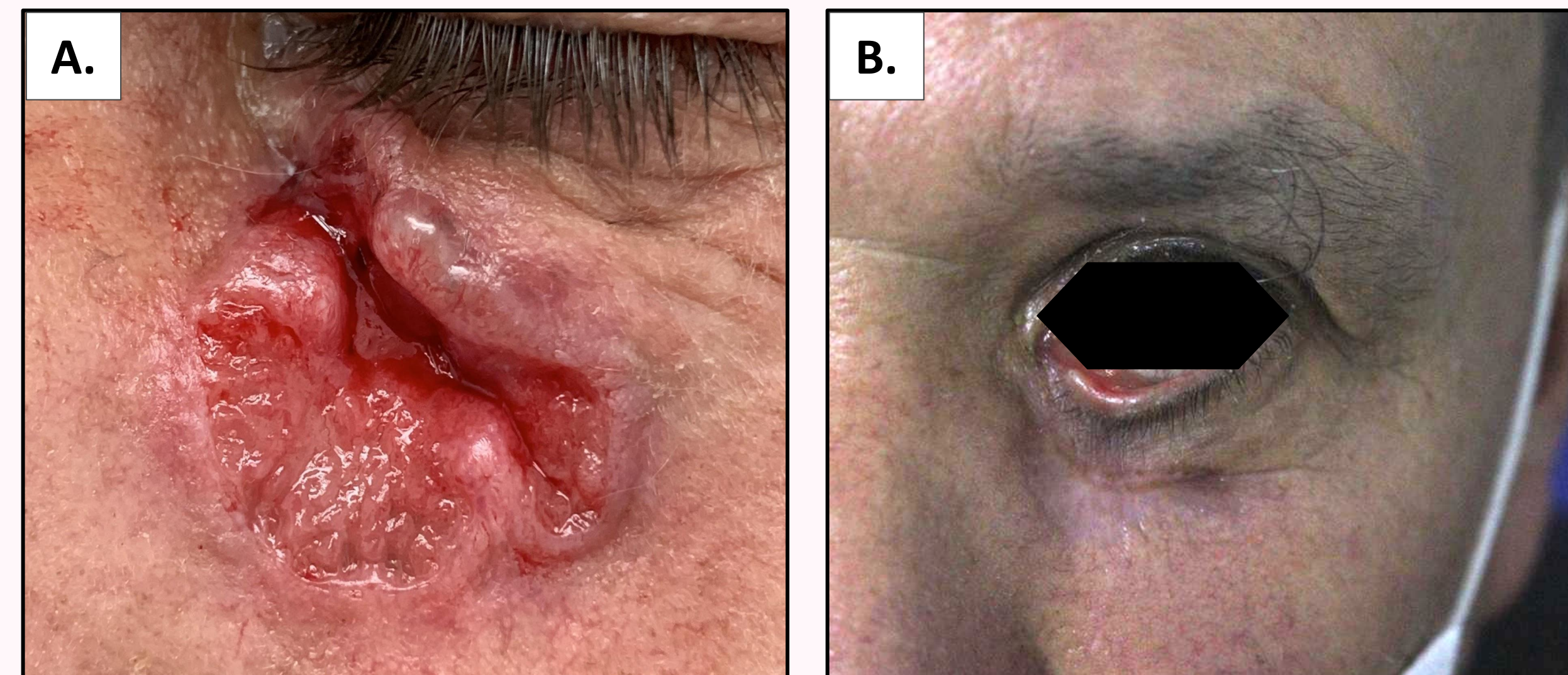


Figure 1. A. In the infraorbital region of the left eye, 1 cm from the inner canthus, there is an ulcerated tumor with a clean center and pearly and chordate borders with telangiectasia. B. Complete resolution of the lesion with residual atrophic scarring.

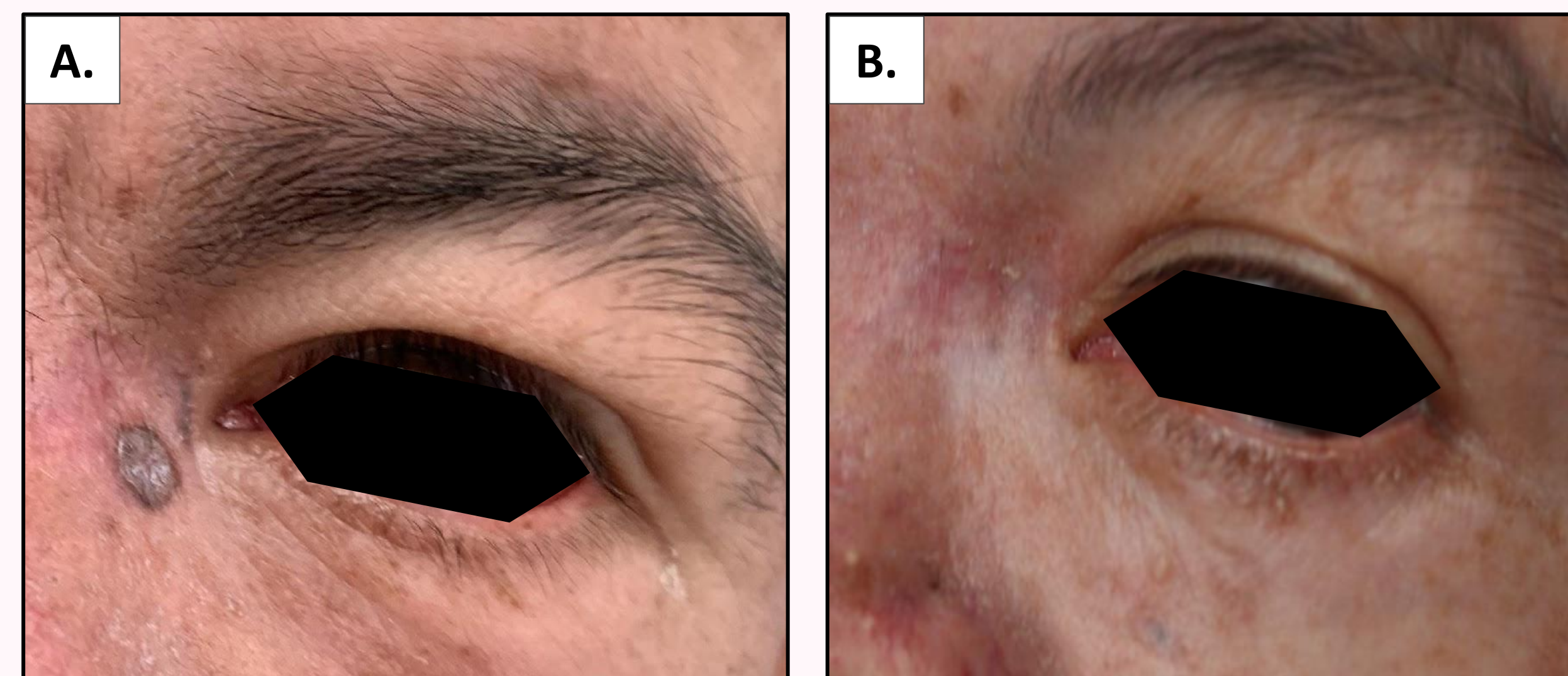


Figure 2. A. Bright grayish-brown plaque with well-defined borders and perilesional telangiectasias, located in the left infraorbital region, 0.3 cm from the inner canthus. B. Presence of atrophic scar after complete healing process.

## Results

Of 8 patients reviewed 4 were female. The median age was 70 years old. Phototype III was the most frequent. Zone H was the most affected location. The mean number of cryotherapy sessions received during Vismodegib treatment was 4.75, and the mean duration of treatment with the hedgehog inhibitor was 3.5 months. Patients were followed up for 15.57 months. Of the 8 patients, 4 presented nodular pattern histology, the rest presented a mixed subtype predominated.

## Conclusion

In general, there was a good response to treatment with a notable decrease in the size and control of the lesions. No side effects were described during the follow-up time; however the patients will continue to be under strict follow-up..

## References

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