Anthracycline extravasation: a comprehensive review of experimental and clinical treatments

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ABSTRACT

An accidental extravasation of anthracycline-containing chemotherapy is a feared complication that may lead to necrosis and severe tissue destruction. For four decades, much effort has been done to prevent and treat this devastating condition. Savene™ has recently been proved to be very effective, and is the only approved treatment against anthracyline extravasation. It is thus now widely recommended. The present article represents a comprehensive review of, and historical insight to, the experimental and clinical studies of surgical and non-surgical treatments of extravasation during forty years of clinical anthracycline treatment.

Key words: anthracycline, experimental, extravasation, dexrazoxane.

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