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Lipoma

East Updated: 08 July 2020

Focused Ultrasound Therapy

Focused ultrasound is an early-stage, noninvasive, therapeutic technology with the potential to improve the quality of life and decrease the cost of care for patients with lipomas that need to be removed. This novel technology focuses beams of

Focused ultrasound for this condition is being researched in clinical trials.

ultrasound energy precisely and accurately on targets deep in the body without damaging surrounding normal tissue. Where the beams converge, the ultrasound produces precise ablation (thermal destruction of tissue) enabling lipoma removal to be accomplished without surgery. The primary option for treatment of lipomas that require removal is invasive surgery.

For certain patients, focused ultrasound could provide a noninvasive alternative to surgery with less risk of complications and lower cost.

Advantages:

- Focused ultrasound is noninvasive, so it does not carry added concerns like surgical wound healing or infection.
- Focused ultrasound can reach the desired target without damaging surrounding tissue.
- It can be repeated, if necessary.

Clinical Trials

At the present time, there are no clinical trials recruiting patients for focused ultrasound removal of lipomas.

Regulatory Approval and Reimbursement

Removing lipomas with focused ultrasound is not yet approved by regulatory bodies or covered by medical insurance companies.

Notable Papers

Shemer A1, Brawer S, Amichi B, Azhari H. **Noninvasive lipoma size reduction using high-intensity focused ultrasound.**

(https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23866057) Dermatol Surg. 2013 Oct;39(10):1446-51. doi:

10.1111/dsu.12269. Epub 2013 Jul 18.

Singal, A., Janiga, J., Bossenbroek, N. and Lim, H. (2007), <u>Dercum's disease (adiposis dolorosa): a report of improvement with infliximab and methotrexate.</u>

(https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17448013)

Journal of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology, 21: 717. doi:10.1111/j.1468-3083.2006.02021

<u>Click here (https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=</u>

<u>(%22focused+ultrasound%22+OR+HIFU)+and+%22fat%22)</u>for additional references from PubMed.

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