What’s on the Internet?

Professional Sites
Recurrent Respiratory Papilloma Foundation at:

www.rrpf.org

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Lawrenceville, NJ. 08648-5557
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RRP Sites for Children

www.rrpf.org/kid-zone

This site is designed for children of all ages. Including frequently asked questions and some personal RRP stories.

Support

The RRPF e-mail Listserve. Which is a private confidential list serve for the exclusive personal, professional and community use of patients, family members, researchers, medical and human service professionals and others who have an interest in RRP.

To subscribe, simply send a blank e-mail to
RRPF-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

An archive of all issues of the RRP Newsletter is available at
www.rrpf.org/newsletter

For Regional Support Network
www.rrpf.org/contact

An educational RRP video is available at
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6M0dWHIQJZc
What treatments are available?

Surgery

Is the most commonly used treatment for RRP. Often a laser is used to remove the papilloma. It is a means of controlling the disease, but is generally not considered a way to "cure" RRP.

Some surgical instruments used for RRP:
- KTP / Dye Laser
- Microdebrider
- Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Laser
- Cold steel

Interferon

May be used experimentally to treat RRP via intra-lesional injections during surgery. Because of possible side effects, it is most appropriate for moderate to severe cases of RRP.

Cidofovir

An anti-viral drug that is being used experimentally to treat RRP via intra-lesional injections during surgery. Because of potential side effects, it is most appropriate for moderate to severe cases of RRP.

Celebrex

A COX-2 inhibitor, which has been shown to be effective in treating recurrent respiratory papillomatosis (RRP) by lowering the virus and stimulating a host-immune response. It helps control the disease but is generally not considered a way to "cure" RRP.

I3C / DIM

Indole-3-carbinol (I3C) and its main breakdown by product Diindolylmethane (DIM) - nutritional supplement that is found in cruciferous vegetables which includes cabbage, brussels sprouts, broccoli, and cauliflower. It is more readily available in therapeutic doses in the chemically equivalent encapsulated form.

Avastin

An approach to remove and inhibit future growth of laryngeal papillomas was recently developed by Dr. Steven Zeitels at Mass General Hospital Voice Center. It involves the use of the angiolytic pulsed-KTP laser coupled with the local injection of the drug Avastin, which inhibits the growth of blood vessels in tumors.

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Interferon

Therapy for RRP is typically via subcutaneous injections. They help control the virus and stimulate a host-immune response. It is a means of controlling the disease but is generally not considered a way to "cure" RRP.

Is MMR/Mumps Vaccine a treatment for RRP?

Dr. Nigel Pashley first started treating RRP patients with the mumps vaccine in the 1980s and then switched to the MMR vaccine. It seems to trigger a local immune response that allows the immune system to control papillomas. This approach has been shown to be effective in treating RRP by lowering the virus and stimulating a host-immune response. It helps control the disease but is generally not considered a way to "cure" RRP.

What are the symptoms?

Patients experience hoarseness as one of their first symptoms. Another frequent complaint in young children is stridor, i.e., particularly stressed breathing on inhaling when sleeping. Other less frequent symptoms are dyspnea (shortness of breath), chronic cough, and recurrent pneumonia. The symptoms can result in RRP being mistakenly attributed to asthma, croup, chronic tonsillitis, or allergies.

What is RRP?

Recurrent Respiratory Papillomatosis (RRP) is a disease in which tumors grow inside the larynx, vocal cords, and trachea. It is a disease in which tumors grow inside the larynx, vocal cords, and trachea.