Compounds Blamed for Deaths

Topical from page 1

and upper chest could be dangerous, Dr. Carruthers said.

Another product, endorsed by cosmetic surgeons at a recent meeting he attended, contains benzonatine, 4% lidocaine, and 4% tetracaine.

“Dermatologists know benzonatine can cause very severe reactions and once you get that, you must get all these cross-reactions,” he said.

“I wouldn’t use this stuff on my dog. I like my dog,” Dr. Carruthers said.

At that time, he can inject lidocaine painlessly or, for simple filler procedures, use a family laser shield designed to protect the patient from the laser beam itself. He then can inject lidocaine, which can cause sloughing of mucosal tissues, and observer ratings of discomfort when L.M.X. 4 was used, with P values in the range of .005.

L.M.X. 4. This anesthetized cream is more appropriate for use in the mouth than alcohol-containing topical gels, which can cause sloughing of mucous membranes and irritation and stingging if they get in the eyes, Dr. Smith said.

For lip procedures, optimal anesthesia can be obtained by numbing the mucosal surface of the lips, including the anterior mucosal of the anterior labial vestibular sulci down to the gingival sulcus as well as the vermilion and a 1-cm margin around the vermilion border.

To achieve this without getting anesthetic all over the inside of the patient’s mouth, he cuts a Tefla pad to mimic a plastic laser shield designed to protect the teeth from laser being performed around the mouth. He cuts a 3-by-4-inch Tefla pad in half, lengthwise, then folds it over and cuts a slit in the middle (to allow the patient to breathe) and slits at the top and bottom to accommodate the frenum.

He inserts the pad into the patient’s mouth, against the teeth. He then uses a tongue depressor to apply L.M.X. 5 thickly over the lips and gums and awaits to other patients for 30-45 minutes, until his watch alarm sounds to remind him to return to perform the procedure.

At that time, he can inject lidocaine painlessly or, for simple filler procedures, move directly to injections of Restylane (nonanimal stabilized hyaluronic acid gel).

Dr. Smith noted that previous research has determined that the anesthetic mixture in L.M.X. 5 does not produce toxic blood levels, even when applied to mucous membranes.

Dr. Carruthers disclosed that he has financial ties to Allergan Inc., which distributes Botox. Dr. Smith received L.M.X. 5 samples from Ferndale Laboratories Inc. for his research.

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