METHODS FOR ENHANCING HEALING OF DIABETIC FOOT ULCERS BY INJECTING EPIDERMAL GROWTH FACTOR (EGF)

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ABSTRACT

The invention relates to the use of Epidermal Growth Factor (EGF) in a preferably-injectable pharmaceutical composition which is administered by means of infiltration into and around chronic cutaneous ischaemic lesions in order to prevent diabetic foot amputation. Said composition can be administered to recently-created surgical surfaces damaged by the effect of acute repulsion with oxygenated blood following prolonged ischaemia, thereby preventing further surgical procedures and favouring the preservation of the extremity. The aforementioned composition can be used to improve (i) the cell microenvironment, thereby increasing the reparative and defensive capacity and viability of the is tissues and (ii) the cicatrisation of cutaneous ischaemic lesions, thereby stimulating cell proliferation. The invention is suitable for use in human, veterinary and experimental medicine, specifically in vascular angioplasty and surgery, dermatology, burn treatment and reconstructive surgery and geriatric medicine. Said composition can be used for recalcitrant ulcers which are associated with lesions in the macro and/or microvasculature, patients with inadequate lymphatic and/or venous return and ulcers or other lesions which are difficult to cicatrize and/or heal.

19 Claims, No Drawings