

## SUMMARY

Basal cell carcinoma is the most common skin cancer accounting for at least 75% of all malignant skin tumours.

It primarily affects sun-exposed areas of the body in light skinned races.

Although it is usually a single lesion most commonly occurring in middle aged and elderly people, yet it may occur in younger people and non exposed sites.

Basal cell carcinoma is essentially locally invasive non metastasizing tumour, but rarely distant metastases are found.

Several methods and techniques are available and applied for the treatment of basal cell carcinoma, these methods depend on the site of the lesion, its size, the age and the patient fitness for operation. Surgery by excision of the tumour with safety margin and covering the resulting defect either by a graft or a flap is considered the best method of treatment, as it maintains and preserves both function and cosmesis of the part

with a success rate up to 95% in comparison with the other methods of treatment, as the success rate reaches 67 % with curettage and electrodesiccation, 90 ,3 % with radiation, 91,8 % with cryosurgery, 60 - 90 % with both immunotherapy and topical therapy with 5- flourouracil and it reaches 82 % with laser beam irradiation. A cure rate which reaches up to 98 % is achieved by chemosurgery, but this technique is tasky and needs special training.