



What is Topical Chemotherapy and Immunotherapy?

In addition to cryotherapy and surgery, topical chemotherapy (i.e. 5-fluorouracil, imiquimod, or ingenol mebutate) can treat actinic keratoses (precancerous spots) and some subtypes of basal cell and squamous cell carcinoma. If the skin cancers are fairly shallow and numerous, topical chemotherapy cream may be a chosen for 'field therapy.' The medicated cream is applied daily for a prescribed period of time. Since the medicine is applied topically, the risk of systemic side effects is minimal.

Another option for treating basal or squamous cell carcinomas is injected chemotherapy, such as methotrexate, and is always administered by Dr. Al-Dabagh in the clinic.

Proper follow-up and monitoring for both topical and injected chemotherapy ensures adequate treatment and minimizes side effects.