

Patients and Methods

Standardized photography of the areas involved or that had been candidates for hidradentitis suppurativa/acne inversa (HS) involvement [22] was performed and MIT pictures (Table 1) of 18 patients (11 female and 7 male, median age 38.75 years [95% CI 28.5–51 years], Hurley score I 5.6%, Hurley score II 38.9%, and Hurley score III 55.5%) were subsequently taken with a FLIR T650sc Thermography Imaging Unit (Wilsonville, OR, USA) at a distance of 50 cm from the skin surface; the pictures were superimposed on the photographs. A modification of the Otsu's method [30], which facilitates the estimation of optimal threshold for discrimination analysis and achievement of automatic lesion segmentation from the background, was applied to depict the inflammation area [31]. Multiple threshold levels were applied to allow the computation of each color provided by a temperature differences of 1°C [27], being indicative of altered blood flow or inflammation in the MIT images [32]. Moreover, MIT was administered in real-time mode during radical HS surgery [33].