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Uveitis and AIDS

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Ocular findings in Behçet's disease in São Paulo, Brazil.

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Purpose: To evaluate the ocular manifestations in patients with Behçet's disease.

Methods: The authors retrospectively reviewed charts of 19 patients with Behçet's disease using the diagnostic criteria proposed by The International Uveitis Study Group for Behçet Disease (group 1) and 15 patients with Incomplete Type of Behçet disease proposed by The Behçet Disease Research Committee of Japan (group 2).

Results: Of the total 94% of the patients had uveitis; 20 (62.5%) had panuveitis, 9 (28.2%) posterior uveitis, 2 (6.2%) anterior uveitis and 1 (3.1%) intermediate uveitis. The ocular lesions were bilateral in 80% of the patients with Incomplete Behçet (group 2) and in 70.5% of the patients in the group 1. In group 1, retinal vasculitis occurred in 68.42%, macular edema in 15.7% and vitreous opacities in 63%. In the Incomplete Behçet group we observed retinal vasculitis (66%), macular edema (13.3%) and vitreous opacities (80%). The final visual acuity was worse than 20/200 in 60.7% of the eyes in the group 1 and in 40.7% of the eyes in the Incomplete Behçet group.

Conclusion: Ocular manifestations are very frequent in Behçet's disease. The posterior segment involvement is the most common finding, associated with serious complications and a poor visual outcome.