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Service (sector) Uveitis and AIDS N° CEP

Surgical Management of Secondary Glaucoma in Patients with Uveitis

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Purpose: To describe the preliminary results of drainage device implantation for the management of glaucoma associated with uveitis. Methods: Case series. Five eyes of four patients with glaucoma secondary to uveitis, who had undergone insertion of a glaucoma drainage device, were reviewed. All patients had failed to respond to clinical treatment as well as to trabeculectomy with mitomycin C. Successful outcome was defined as final intraocular pressure of 6 to 21 mmHg without visually devastating complications. Results: No significant intraoperative or postoperative complications of drainage device implantation were noted. The postoperative follow-up ranged from 2 to 26 months (mean + standard deviation, 9,4 + 8,3 months). Insertion of a glaucoma drainage device was effective in controlling the intraocular pressure in 4 of 5 studied cases. Failure in one case was related to poor control of the inflammatory disease. Four eyes maintained or improved their visual acuity over the period of follow-up. Conclusions: Glaucoma drainage device implantation can be an effective and safe method in the management of uveitic glaucoma. Further research with randomized clinical trials will be necessary to determine if the glaucoma drainage device could be used as first option for glaucoma secondary to uveitis.