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Optical Coherence Tomography Evaluation after Intravitreal Triamcinolone Acetonide for the Treatment of Exudative Age-related Macular Degeneration

Authors/Institutions:M.L. Abrantes, M.E. Farah, R.A. Costa, J.A. Cardillo, P.P. Bonomo. Retina & Vitreous Section, Paulista School of Medicine, Federal University of São Paulo, Brazil Purpose: To describe optical coherence tomography (OCT) findings after a single intravitreal injection of triamcinolone acetonide (TAAC) for the treatment of exudative age related macular degeneration (AMD). Methods: Eighteen eyes of 16 consecutive patients with subfoveal choroidal neovascularization were treated with a single intravitreal injection of 4 mg TAAC. Prospective evaluation with ophthalmologic examination, visual acuity assessment, fundus photography, indocyanine green (ICG) and fluorescein angiography (FA), and OCT were performed at baseline, 1, 3, 6 and 9 months after enrollment. Results: The final visual acuity was the same in 10 eyes (55 %), increased 5 or more letters in the ETDRS chart in 5 eyes (27 %) and in 3 eyes (18 %) decreased 5 or more letters compared to baseline in 9 months of follow up. OCT evaluation showed reduction in retinal thickness in 11 eyes (61 %), 5 eyes (27 %) remained unchanged and 2 eyes (11%) showed an increase in retinal thickness. IV FA showed moderate leakage without progression in 9 eyes (50 %), minimal leakage without progression in 6 eyes (33 %) and progression in 3 eyes (17 %). No evident alteration was detected by ICG angiography in all eyes. There were no complications related to the procedure. Conclusion: This study suggests that short and long-term reduction of retinal edema can be achieved after a single intravitreal injection of TAAC for the treatment of exudative AMD, and visual acuity stabilization can be achieved in half of the eyes treated. OCT demonstrated better quantitative evaluation than FA, suggesting that it may be an important tool in assessing retinal response in such proposed therapy.