OPTICAL COHERENCE TOMOGRAPHY IN STARGARDT DISEASE

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PURPOSE: Stargardt disease is the most common form of juvenile-onset macular dystrophy. The purpose of this study to analyse of the macular region using optical coherence tomography (OCT) in patients affected by Stargardt disease (SD). **METHODS:** Eighteen individuals with different stages of SD were included in the study. Complete ophthalmologic exam, retinography, angiofluorescein examination and OCT scan (Optical Coherence Tomographer Model 3000- OCT 3®(Carl-Zeiss-Meditec, Dublin,USA)) were performed in all individuals. Six 6mm long radial scans manually centered on the fovea were obtained in all eyes. Foveolar thickness (FT) and total macular volume (TMV) were measured automatically using the mapping software of the OCT. **RESULTS:** OCT disclosed reduction of foveal thickness, decreased macular volume and focal loss of photoreceptors in most cases.
 CONCLUSIONS: These results indicate that OCT has the efficacy to remark the main structural retinal abnormalities in patients with SD, and therefore has the potential to contribute to a better understanding of ocular pathogenesis.