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Service (sector) Retina and Vitreous N° CEP

Peripapillary Hemorrhagic Retinal Pigment Epithelium Detachment Following Radial Optic Neurotomy

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Purpose: To report a case of peripapillary hemorrhagic retinal pigment epithelium detachment following radial optic neurotomy (RON).

Design: Interventional case report.

Methods: We performed a radial optic neurotomy in a case of central retinal vein occlusion (CRVO) complicated by rubeosis iridis and vitreal hemorrhage. Vitrectomy, intravitreal injection of triamcinolone acetonide and endolaser photocoagulation were also performed. The patient was followed for 6 months with complete ophthalmologic examination, OCT, fluorescein angiography (FA) and visual field tests.

Results: As a complication of the surgical procedure we had a subretinal hemorrhage at the site of the RON during the surgery. Visual acuity improved from 20/200 at the first week, to 20/60 at the 4th week. Chorioretinal anastomosis was noted nasally from the optic disc at the 4th week, appearing to communicate with the area of the previous hemorrhagic lesion.. Disc neovascularization had regressed and there was no recurrence of the vitreous hemorrhage. RPE atrophic changes were noted in the FA evaluation. Visual field tests demonstrated a localized scotoma temporal to the blind spot.

Conclusion: Our case illustrates the need for the retinal specialist to be aware of potential complications associated with RON when indicating such procedure. It also demonstrates the possibility of visual acuity improvement even in advanced stages of ischemic central retinal vein occlusion.