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Service (sector) Uveitis and AIDS N° CEP

Intravitreal injection of clindamycin and dexamethasone for toxoplasmic retinochoroiditis: pilot study

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Purpose: Evaluate the recurrence and therapeutic effectiveness of the intravitreal injection of clindamycin and dexamethasone in patients with active toxoplasmic retinochoroiditis.

Methods: Nine patients with unilateral retinochoroiditis toxoplasmosis, and visual acuity worse or equal to 20/60, received intravitreal injection of 1mg of clindamycin and 0.5 mg of associated dexamethasone, in a total volume of 0.1 ml, under local anesthesia. The whole group had been received with specific oral therapy for toxoplasmosis before beginning the study.

Results: Six patients were females. Mean age of 32,5 years, ranged from 16 to 45. Mean follow-up time was 98 days, ranged from 90 to 135. Visual acuity improved in 66,6% of cases, in these patients the mean gain was 4 lines, ranged from 2 to 8. The improvement of vision beginning in first week after local treatment and reached stability after one month. During the follow-up time no recurrence was observed, therefore only 1 injection was carried through in each patient

Comments: The local treatment with clindamycin and dexamethasone for toxoplasmic retinochoroiditis is an alternative method that provides a high concentration of antibiotic and glucocorticoids in the site of infection, to making possible a fast control of infection and decreasing the inflammation. The treatment is important for patients with contraindications for oral treatment. The medication adherence was total and the patients' satisfaction was high. This pilot study demonstrated to be safe. The results was good, with a fast improvement of visual acuity, mainly in persons that beginning the treatment two weeks after symptoms and didn't have foveal scar.