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Service (sector) Retina and Vitreous N° CEP

Acute retinal necrosis syndrome: clinical features and prognosis

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Purpose: To describe the clinical features and follow-up of patients with acute retinal necrosis (ARN) syndrome at the Cole Eye Institute of The Cleveland Clinic. **Materials and Methods:** All charts of patients diagnosed and treated with ARN at the Cole Eye Institute between August 1988 and April 2000 were retrospectively reviewed. ARN was defined used standard diagnostic criteria. **Results:** 20 eyes of 19 patients were included. Mean follow-up was 2.8 years. Male:female ratio was 9:10 and mean age was 43 years-old. Mean visual acuity did not differ from initial to last visit. Iritis and vitritis were present in all eyes, keratic precipitates were found in 19 eyes, relative afferent pupillary defect in 10 eyes, disc edema in 9 eyes and posterior synechiae in 1 eye. Intraretinal hemorrhage and vasculopathy (occlusive/sheathing) were present in 14 eyes each. Two patterns of retinitis were observed: peripheral in 11 eyes and multifocal speckled in 9 eyes. Every eye with multifocal speckled pattern developed retinal detachment whereas 45% of eyes with peripheral pattern did ($p=0.01$). Mean time elapsed to development of retinal detachment was 49.9 days in the multifocal speckled pattern and 440 days in the peripheral pattern.

Conclusions: ARN results in severe visual loss despite aggressive medical and surgical treatment. In this study, patients presented with 2 very different patterns of retinitis. All patients with multifocal speckled pattern developed retinal detachment.