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Last Name - Libera First Name - Rodrigo Middle - Doyle

Service (sector) Trauma

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Vitreous hemorrhage in blunt ocular trauma

Libera R.D, Martins E.N Trauma Service – Department of Ophthalmology - Federal University of São Paulo

PURPOSE: To identify prognostic factors for visual acuity in patients with trauma-related vitreous hemorrhage.

PATIENTS AND METHODS: The records of 915 patients who attended Federal University of São Paulo Eye Emergency Center during a 5-year period, followed for at least 6 months, were retrospectively reviewed. Patients with vitreous hemorrhage associated to blunt ocular trauma were selected. We investigated the factors possibly related to final visual acuity using either Spearman's rank correlation coefficient (initial best corrected visual acuity –BCVA and age) or Fisher Exact test (final BCVA of 0.5 Snellen E or better *vs* posterior segment alterations).

RESULTS: Forty-nine patients (39 males) were included. The most common findings were traumatic uveitis (46.9%), hyphema (40.8%) and corneal abrasion (36.7%). Retina tear and /or retinal detachment occurred in 26.5% of the cases. BCVA at last visit was 0.5 or better in 40.8% of the eyes. Initial BCVA was significantly associated with final BCVA (r = 0.72, p<0.001) and a trend towards worse final BCVA in older patients was also detected. Final BCVA of 0.5 or better was significantly less frequent in patients with retinal detachment.

CONCLUSIONS: Retinal detachment and age were related to prognosis in our series of patients with trauma-related vitreous hemorrhage.