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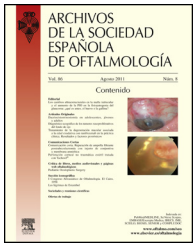

Short communication

Laser and ranibuzumab combination for retinal vasoproliferative tumor's management☆

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ABSTRACT

Case report: A 34 year-old man presented with progressive visual loss in his right eye. Ocular fundus showed a vasoproliferative tumor in the peripheral retina with an associated epiretinal macular membrane. Angiography showed a rapid filling of tumor vessels. The treatment consisted of laser photocoagulation and a single injection of intravitreal ranibizumab. After 8 weeks, there was a residual area of fibrosis, the posterior hyaloid was detached, and the epiretinal membrane disappeared. Visual acuity returned to 20/25.
Discussion: Laser photocoagulation and intravitreal ranibizumab combination could be useful for vasoproliferative tumors.

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Combinación de láser y ranibizumab en el manejo del tumor retiniano vasoproliferativo

Palabras clave:
Tumor retiniano vasoproliferativo
Neovascularización
Membrana epirretiniana

RESUMEN

Caso clínico: Varón de 34 años que presentó pérdida progresiva de visión en el ojo derecho. Se objetivó un tumor vasoproliferativo en la retina periférica con membrana epimacular asociada. La angiografía mostró un rápido llenado de los vasos tumorales. Se trató con fotocoagulación láser más ranibizumab intravítreo. Tras 8 semanas se evidenció la fibrosis de la lesión, el desprendimiento de la hialoides posterior y la desaparición de la membrana. La agudeza visual volvió a 20/25.
Discusión: La combinación de fotocoagulación y ranibizumab intravítreo podría ser útil en el tratamiento de este tumor.

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Introduction

Vasoproliferative retinal tumors are benign lesions of unknown origin which equally affect middle-aged men and women. Morphologically these are small, pinkish or yellowish solitary tumors with clearly differentiated afferent and efferent vessels. Typically these tumors are localized in the inferior temporal quadrant close to the *ora serrata*. Frequently they associate intraretinal hemorrhage, intra-or sub-retinal exudation and hyperpigmentation of the retina pigment epithelium. A range of therapeutic strategies have been proposed including observation, laser therapy, brachytherapy, cryotherapy and eventually vitrectomy.

Clinic case report

Male, 34, without previous ocular history, who consulted due to progressive and painless diminishing visual acuity in the right eye. Exploration revealed a visual acuity of 20/200 in the right eye and 20/25 in the left eye. Biomicroscopy and intraocular pressure were normal for both eyes. Ocular fundus revealed consistent peripheral lesion in aberrant vascular formation of approximately 2 papilla diameters accompanied by the vitreous and intraretinal hemorrhage, exudation and pigment alteration (Fig. 1). The posterior pole of the same eye exhibited associated epiretinal membrane (Fig. 2) secondary to cell-fibrous proliferation in the interface between the posterior hyaloids and the internal limiting membrane. Fluorescein angiography revealed quick filling of the lesion in early times with dilatation of substitute vessels (Fig. 3). Late times exhibited contrast leak toward surrounding tissue without vitreous humor infiltration.

It was decided to approach the case with a combination of perilesional and direct photocoagulation over aberrant vessels with laser-argon and intravitreal injection of 0.05 ml ranibizumab (Lucentis. Novartis Pharmaceutical, Basel, Switzerland). After 8 weeks a complete involution of the vascular tumor was observed together with a cicatricial lesion in the area previously taken up by the tumor (Fig. 4), as well as the spontaneous detachment of the fibrous-cellular complex which joined the posterior hyaloids and the internal limiting membrane of the posterior pole (Fig. 5) and a recovery of visual acuity up to 20/25.

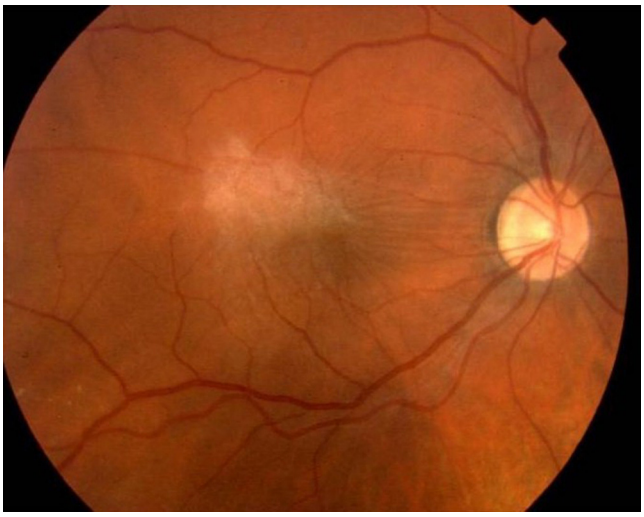

Fig. 2 – Associated macular epiretinal proliferative membrane and posterior hyaloids contraction.

Discussion

Vasoproliferative retinal tumors were described by Shields et al.[1] in 1995 as neurosensory retina-dependent neoplasiae. On the basis of a series of 103 cases in which 74% of these tumors were idiopathic and 28% were related to previous ocular disease (vitreoretinal, inflammatory, vascular,

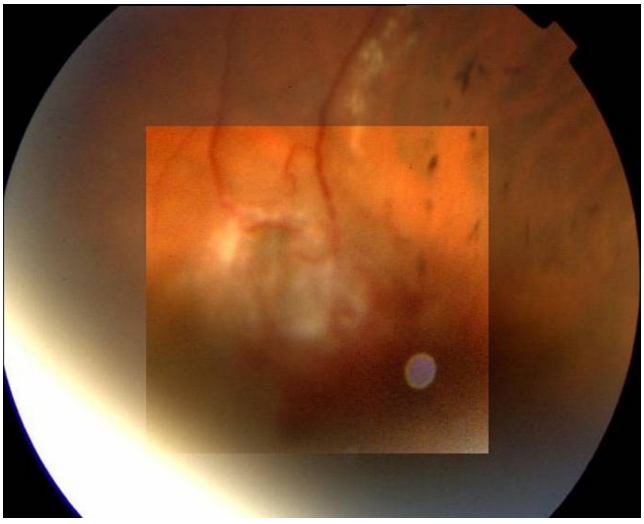

Fig. 1 – Peripheral vascular tumor with peritumoral exudation and pigment alteration.

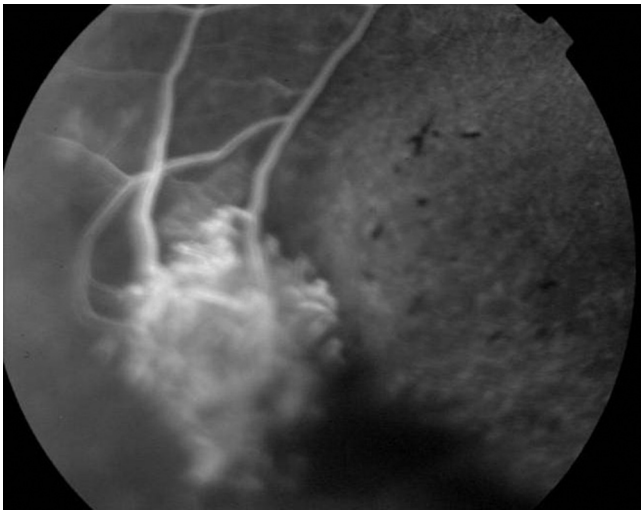

Fig. 3 – Angiographic fluorescein image showing quick filling of the lesion in early times.

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