

Randomized, double blind, controlled study with verteporfin photodynamic therapy and intravitreal triamcinolone (IVTA) vs triple therapy with verteporfin photodynamic therapy, intravitreal triamcinolone and intravitreal ranibizumab in patients with subfoveal choroidal neovascularization (CNV) secondary

Authors: Rosa Maria Romero-Castro, Alfredo Morales, H. Quiroz-Mercado, Mexico

Advantages:

New modality treatments are needed to increase effectiveness and reduce number of retreatments in AMD patients. Triple therapy with PDT, intravitreal triamcinolone and intravitreal ranibizumab can be with less number of treatments and they're for less cost a safe treatment option for neovascular AMD and prevents a considerable decrease in VA.

Methods:

Prospective, comparative, randomized, double blind, controlled study. 32 patients with classic subfoveal choroidal neovascularization secondary to age related macular degeneration was randomized. Group 1: receive PDT followed by 4 mg IVTA (n=17) or group 2: TT (triple Therapy) PDT followed by 4 mg IVTA + 0.5 mg of intravitreal Ranibizumab (n=15).

Results:

At 9 months 14 of 17 patients (82.3%) of group 1 and 15 of 15 patients (100%) of group 2 had lost fewer than 15 letters (P.001). 7 patients (41.1%) of group 1 and 9 patients (60%) of group 2 had an improvement of 11 letters or more and the mean OCT central retinal thickness decreased by 156 microm in group 1 and 172 microm of group 2. Lesion type, patient age, and lesion size had no influence on the outcome, but baseline VA had a statistically significant effect (P = .006 the median number of treatments in group 1 were 1.5 and in group 2 was 1.0. The 28% of PDT-Triamcinolone group and 25% of triple therapy group had an increase in intraocular pressure (IOP) that required therapy. Progression or development of cataract was observed in 14.2% in PDT- IVTA group and 12.5% in Triple therapy group. There were no cases of endophthalmitis. No cardiac or cerebrovascular events were presented.

Conclusions:

The combination of PDT, intravitreal triamcinolone acetonide and intravitreal ranibizumab is safe, effective and more cost-effective than other treatment options.