

SYMPOSIUM: ARMD SURGICAL APPROACH

Moderators: Klaus Lucke, Karl Ulrich Bartz-Schmidt, Frank Koch, Sven Crafoord

Monday, June 20, 2005 ; 8:30 - 1:15

The use of tPA in the management of sub-retinal haemorrhages

Author: Theodoros Potamitis, Aristos Kafkalias, Eleni Topuzi

Purpose:

To evaluate the efficacy and safety of sub-retinal haemorrhage removal during vitrectomy, augmented by the use of tPA.

Methods:

Eight cases of massive sub-retinal haemorrhage due to AMD are reviewed. The method used and the timing for tPA injection are presented.

Results:

In all eight cases peripheral vision improved so that the patients gained navigation vision. Removal of the haemorrhage was easier in the cases injected with tPA three days before the vitrectomy. One patient developed a retinal detachment and required re-operation.

Conclusion:

The use of tPA combined with vitrectomy is a safe method of removing massive sub-retinal haemorrhages secondary to AMD.

Take-home message:

Wait three days for the tPA to work before you remove the haemorrhage.