

Triple Combination Therapy (Photodynamic Therapy with Intravitreal Bevacizumab and Subtenon Triamcinolone Acetonide) for Choroidal Neovascularization

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PURPOSE

To determine the results of combination triple therapy for choroidal neovascularization (CNV).

METHODS

Prospective pilot study of 11 consecutive eyes with new (previously untreated) CNV which were treated with photodynamic therapy (PDT) with visudyne along with intravitreal bevacizumab (1.25mg) and subtenon triamcinolone (40mg). Detailed ophthalmic evaluation included Visual acuity measurements (LogMar ETDRS), fluorescein angiography and optical coherence topography at all visits. Main outcome measures included changes in ETDRS VA, OCT retinal thickness, angiographic lesion characteristics and safety and retreatment rate at 6 months follow-up.

RESULTS

All 11 eyes showed complete closure of CNV lesions and resolution of macular edema, subretinal fluid and pigment epithelial detachment at 6 months followup. The mean final visual acuity was 0.387+ 0.188 (LogMar ETDRS) as compared to 0.725+ 0.175 ($p<0.001$, paired t-test) at baseline. The mean central retinal thickness at 6 months post-treatment was 201.36 as compared to 294.18 at baseline ($p<0.005$, paired t-test). No significant ocular or systemic side effects were observed. No case required any form of repeat treatments at end of 6 months.

CONCLUSION

Short-term results suggest that triple combination therapy with PDT, intravitreal bevacizumab (1.25 mg) and subtenon triamcinolone is well tolerated and associated with improvement in VA, decreased retinal thickness by OCT, and reduction in angiographic leakage. It also reduces or eliminates need for retreatment and its use as first-line therapy for CNV merits further investigation.