

Avastin – It's Not Just for Retina Anymore

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PURPOSE

To determine whether combination therapy of Avastin and Kenalog is useful in the treatment of corneal neovascularization.

METHODS

A patient presenting with severe corneal neovascularization in both eyes and Hand Motion (HM) vision was given multiple treatments of Avastin, by different routes (topical, subconjunctival, and intravitreal) as well as in combination with Kenalog. Both eyes were evaluated independently from each other.

RESULTS

Neither, topical nor intravitreal Avastin, provided any improvement in vision, nor any decrease in vascular growth. A subconjunctival injection of Avastin resulted in an improvement in visual acuity from HM to 20/400, as well as a questionable decrease in vascular growth, lasting a period of 2 weeks. However, intravitreal injection of Avastin in combination with a subconjunctival injection of Kenalog provided significant improvement in vision, from HM to 20/200 in both eyes, as well as a significant decrease in vascularization, currently holding a duration of 2 months.

CONCLUSION

This is the first reported case of treating corneal neovascularization with combination therapy of intravitreal injection of Avastin combined with subconjunctival injection of Kenalog. These findings may provide evidence that a multi-pronged approach to treatment may be necessary to treat this form of abnormal neovascularization.