

PVD status as one strategical parameter in PDR

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Purpose:

Retinal status regarding ischemia and neovascularization is the usual clinical and para-clinical (fluorescein angiography) decisional parameter in PDR; however PVD status (no PVD, partial PVD, total PVD) carries an essential role in the development and course of the disease.

Methods:

Retrospective series of 600 patients with DR followed and treated between 6 months and 17 years. Monitoring parameters for decision making regarding laser and surgery were: fundus examination, fluorescein angiography and high resolution B-Scan, even in case of clear media.

Results:

Taking into account PVD status allowed 1) to avoid surgery in case of total PVD even if Pan Retinal Photocoagulation (PRP) was not completed 2) to anticipate PRP, preparation for surgery, and eventually surgery in case of partial PVD.

Conclusion:

Clinical and ultrasonic evaluation of PVD status should be part of the parameters for decision making in PDR.

Take home message:

Ophthalmologists involved in DR must learn how to recognize even early PVD status in order to improve a rational approach of the disease.

