



Service Priorities and Programmes
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Local experience in the management of retinopathy of prematurity with intravitreal ranibizumab

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Introduction

Retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) is the commonest blinding ophthalmic condition in infants. Patients with aggressive ROP is traditionally managed with laser photocoagulation. However, laser therapy may not be feasible in all patients and the treatment could result in undesirable complications. Increased level of intraocular Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor (VEGF) has been noted in ROP patients. Therefore, anti-VEGF may be an alternative solution to ROP.

Objectives

1. To discuss the indications of anti-VEGF injections in patients with ROP 2. To present the outcome of our patients with ROP managed with intravitreal anti-VEGF injections

Methodology

Retrospective study: Records of all patients with ROP treated with ranibizumab injections in Hong Kong Eye Hospital were retrieved. Progression of disease before and after anti-VEGF injections were reviewed.

Result

Four patients with ROP were treated with intravitreal ranibizumab injections for different indications. Late recurrence of ROP was noted in one patient, requiring supplementary laser treatment. Resolution of ROP were noted in all patients at last visit. One patient was complicated with mild cataract post-injection. To conclude, intravitreal anti-VEGF injections can be an alternative treatment for aggressive ROP. Longer follow-up is required in ROP patients managed with anti-VEGF injections for possible late recurrence.