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Uveitis: How far we are?

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Statement of the Problem: Uveitis is one of the leading cause of blindness. The uveitis as specialty was considers somehow poor gain compared to other ophthalmic subspecialties because of the limitations in diagnosing its varieties and treating them. Many years back the treatment of uveitis relayed on the steroids “magic” which is carrying high risks on long term use. Similarly, uveitic cataract was managed until last decade by leaving the patient aphakic. Recently many modifications in diagnosis and treatment became a breakthrough which improved the satisfaction of patients & ophthalmologists.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: Literatures review of recent articles that covers the changes in uveitis management. The review showed that great steps in diagnosis and management of uveitic entities related to more understanding of its pathophysiology and classification. The management of uveitis moved from broader spectrum therapy toward highly specific treatments targeting the specific immunological triggers. Treatment of uveitis to good extent shifted from systemic medications to local therapy. Surgical management of uveitic complications has also changed toward better outcomes.

Conclusion & Significance: Currently, uveitis became more promising specialty for ophthalmologists. With establishment of the specialized uveitis groups that worked hard to standardize diagnosis and management it is getting easier to conduct larger studies. Nevertheless, there are areas for improvement in diagnosis & management.

Biography

Sultan E AL-Zaaidi is a Consultant Ophthalmologist in Prince Sultan Military Medical City (PSMMC) in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. He is specialized in Anterior Segment, Cornea, Refractive Surgery & Uveitis and had his training and practiced in major tertiary care hospitals. Being involved in governmental, educational and private sector allowed him to build good skills and experience in his field. Currently, Sultan AL-Zaaidi over many years had chances to operate most of the machines, products & microscopes practicing management of anterior segment diseases in both sectors from simple to complicated applying premium solutions. He has delivered lectures/courses in cataract management and Uveitis in couple of symposium. He holds the Director of Continuous Education in (PSMMC) and working on establishing the permanent microsurgical ophthalmic surgical skills training center and initiating basic science ophthalmology research project under the research center of PSMMC.

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