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Clinical feature of optic neuritis with Toxocara serum antibody positive in Korea

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Statement of the Problem: Ocular toxocariasis is typically presented with retinal granuloma or nematode endophthalmitis, but it can also invade other ocular tissue. Due to limitation of diagnostic tools, toxocariasis invading optic nerve remains uncertain area. The purpose of this study is to analyze the characteristics of patients with optic neuritis who have positive toxoplasmosis by serologic tests.

Methods: We retrospectively reviewed data of patients who were diagnosed as optic neuritis and followed up at least 1 month between 2012 and 2016. Clinical characteristics and optic disc findings were reviewed.

Results: The group seropositive and seronegative included 13 and 12 patients respectively. Patients in group seropositive was likely to older (56.8 ± 11.9 vs. 34.5 ± 15.5 , $P=0.001$) and was presenting ocular pain less frequently (30.8% vs. 91.7%, $P=0.003$). Asymmetric optic disc swelling was observed more frequently (72.7% vs. 22.2%, $P=0.035$). Final visual acuity (logMAR) in the group “seropositive” was worse than the other group (0.75 ± 0.88 vs. 0.04 ± 0.07 , $P=0.001$).

Conclusion: Serum Ig G for Toxocara test might be helpful in differential diagnosis of optic neuritis and the possibility of bad visual prognosis should be kept in mind.

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