

Treatment options of uveitis, current standards and what's coming

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Uveitis is an ocular condition characterized by the presence of inflammation in the eye. It affects 1 in 1000 people in the United States and the disease is usually manifestation of autoimmune etiology. It can affect patients of all ages, however, it is more common in young adults. Uveitis and its complication are some of the leading causes of blindness in the US. Despite its impact to the society, treatment of uveitis remains heterogeneous. There is a general consensus among specialists, but there is no preferred practice pattern in place. Furthermore, there are very few options for treatment of chronic uveitis that has FDA indication. In fact, chronic use of oral corticosteroids is the only FDA approved therapy, however, such therapy carries significant morbidity to the patient. There are numerous FDA trials that are ongoing to evaluate various steroid sparing options, such as existing drug on the market and novel agents, as well as alternative method of delivery, including iontophoresis. Through these trials, we hope to develop treatment patterns that are effective and safe for patients with uveitis.

Biography

David S Chu received his MD from NYU. Currently, he is Clinical Associate Professor and Associate Director of Corneal and Refractive Surgery Division and Uveitis Division at New Jersey Medical School of UMDNJ. He is Medical Director of Metropolitan Eye Research and Surgery Institute in New York/New Jersey. He serves as Medical Director of Lions Eye Bank of New Jersey and Midwest Eye Banks as well as Team Ophthalmologist to the New York Jets.

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