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Treatment of retinal capillary hemangioma using 810 nm infrared laser

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Background: Treatment of retinal capillary hemangioma (RCH) can be complicated. Choice of treatment depends on tumor size, tumor location and any associated findings. Treatment of RCH using infrared laser is a very recent treatment option.

Aim: Presentation of RCH treatment results using infrared laser from the Department of Ophthalmology for Children and Adults, 2nd Faculty of Medicine of Charles University and Motol University Hospital (1998-2014).

Design: Non-comparative, prospective, interventional case series.

Participants: The treatment and follow-up of eight eyes (eleven tumors of different size and localization) in six patients (four children) with RCH.

Methods: Infrared diode laser was used at 810 nm and power between 200 and 1100mW with a beam diameter of 2 mm (indirect ophthalmoscope, +28 D or +40 D lens) or 0.5-3 mm (slit-lamp) depending on the diameter of the hemangioma, with 1 minute of exposure time.

Results: We achieved complete destruction of the tumor with flat chorioatrophic scar in all cases. Only one tumor regrowth was observed and another treatment in this case was necessary. There was one serious complication, total retinal detachment, causing deterioration in visual acuity. Other complications like haze and bleeding were transient. Final visual acuity ranged from 20/20 to counting fingers at 2 feet.

Conclusions: Infrared laser can be considered an acceptable therapeutic option for RCH especially for centrally localized lesions. We believe that the role of this therapy will increase in the future.

Biography

Pavel Pochop has completed his PhD in the year 2012 and in 2015 he became Associate Professor at Charles University in Prague. He has published more than 20 papers in reputed journals not only in Czech Republic, but also in other European countries and in United States.

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