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## The use of intravitreal steroid implant (Ozurdex) for treatment of refractory cystoid macular edema secondary to retinitis pigmentosa

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**Introduction:** Retinitis pigmentosa (RP) is a clinically & genetically diverse group of diffuse retinal dystrophies that initially affecting rod with subsequent degeneration of cones. Maculopathy is one of the complications of RP that affecting vision and usually takes different types like: Atrophic, Cystoid Macular Edema and Macular retraction. The prevalence of CME was 52% in AD RP, 39% in AR RP and 35% in XL.

**Methods:** We retrospectively reviewed a 24 years old male patient presented with bilateral refractory cystoid macular edema secondary to RP which is not responding to topical carbonic anhydrase inhibitor and multiple anti VEGF injections of Lucentis in both eyes. The patient underwent bilateral 0.7 mg intravitreal dexamethasone (Ozurdex) implant of 1 week apart, the spectral domain OCT was performed before and one month after Ozurdex injection and to assess the efficacy of intravitreal steroid implants in treatment of refractory CMO in RP.

**Results:** The spectral domain OCT after 1 month of injection showed significant anatomical and functional improvements, CMT improved from 314 um to 233 um in the right eye and from 590 um to 207 um in the left eye. The BCVA improved from 6/18 to 6/9 in the right eye and from CF 1 meter to 6/60 in the left eye.

**Conclusion:** It seems that the refractory CMO in RP is mostly inflammatory driven, for this reason it shows a dramatic response to intravitreal steroids, in our case, the patient has received multiple anti VEGF injections of Lucentis with no improvement, but he responded very well anatomically and functionally to intravitreal steroid implant of Ozurdex, the results in our case was matching other small case series results, Ex: In retrospective study of Ozdemir et. al., reported the efficacy of intravitreal steroid in a group of five eyes of five patients. Further preferably randomized trails may establish the place of intravitreal dexamethasone in the treatment of refractory CME related to RP.

### Biography

Al Mamoori Fawwaz is the Head of Medical Retina Department in Eye Specialty Hospital (Amman, Jordan) and Head of Scientific Ophthalmology Training Program in Eye Specialty Hospital. He is also the Advisory Board Member of Allergan, Novartis and Bayer. He is a certified Femtosecond (LenSix) Cataract Surgeon and Certified Femtosecond (Vectus) Cataract Surgeon. His area of interests includes diabetic retinopathy, AMD (age related macular degeneration) and retinal vascular disease.

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