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Flammer-syndrome as one of the risk factors for GON

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Increased intraocular pressure (IOP) is a major risk factor for glaucomatous damage and reducing IOP improves prognosis. Nevertheless, there is little doubt that other risk factors besides IOP such as unstable ocular perfusion are involved. Blood flow is unstable if either the IOP fluctuates at a high level (or blood pressure fluctuates at a low level) or if the autoregulation of blood flow is disturbed. A common cause for a disturbed OBF autoregulation is a primary vascular dysregulation (PVD) frequently observed in normal tension glaucoma patients. An unstable blood flow leads to recurrent mild reperfusion injury (chronic oxidative stress) affecting particularly the mitochondria of the optic nerve head. OBF regulation can be improved by magnesium, calcium channel blockers as well as with carbonic anhydrase inhibitors.

Biography

Maneli Mozaffarieh is a Glaucoma Specialist working at the University of Basel, Department of Ophthalmology. The focus of her research is on ocular blood flow.

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