

November 20-22, 2013 DoubleTree by Hilton Baltimore-BWI Airport, MD, USA

## Pharmacogenetic association of anti-vascular endothelial growth factor treatment in neovascular age-related macular degeneration

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We conducted a prospective study on pharmacogenetic association of anti-vascular endothelial growth factor (anti-VEGF) treatment in neovascular age-related macular degeneration (AMD). 201 consecutive patients treated with an as-required regimen of ranibizumab or bevacizumab were genotyped for seven tagged single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in *VEGFA* gene. 224 patients were also genotyped for seventeen AMD risk-associated SNPs in the *CFH*, *CFHR1-5*, *LOC387715/ARMS2*, *C3*, *C2*, *CFB* and *F13B* genes. Multivariate data analysis was used to determine the role of genotype variants on treatment outcome. Of the seven examined SNPs in the *VEGFA* gene, SNP rs3025000 was the only SNP significantly associated (*p* value <  $1x10^{-4}$ ) with visual outcome at 6 months. The presence of the T allele at this SNP predicted a better outcome of +7 letters at 6 months. Analysis of the seventeen AMD risk-associated SNPs revealed that the AA genotype at rs11200638 - *HTRA1* promoter SNP (*p* =0.001) and GG genotype at rs10490924 (A69S) in LOC387715/ARMS2 (p=0.002) were significantly associated with poorer VA outcome at 12 months. The Mean change in VA from baseline in patients with AA genotype at rs11200638 was -2.9±15.2 letters after 12 months, compared with +5.1±14.1 letters in patients with AG or GG genotypes at this SNP. SNPs rs11200638 and rs10490924 were in high linkage disequilibrium (LD,  $r^2 = 0.92$ ). None of the other examined SNPs was associated with outcome. These findings may suggest a pharmacogenetic association and lead to a personalised treatment regimen, based on genotype to achieve optimal outcome in certain groups of patients.

## Biography

Farshad Abedi obtained his MD from Iran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran. He completed a Doctor of Medical Science (DMedSc) in ophthalmic research at the University of Melbourne, Australia. His research was focused on predictors of outcome of anti-VEGF treatment in neovascular AMD. He currently works at St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney Australia.

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