ACUTE OPTIC NEUROPATHY REVEALING BEHÇET’S DISEASE IN A 52 YEARS OLD MAN
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ABSTRACT: We report a case of acute optic neuropathy in a 52-year-old man bringing about the diagnosis of Behçet’s disease. The patient presented with acute visual loss and gradual constriction of superior visual field in his left eye for two weeks. His ophthalmic examination revealed an oedematous optic disc with blurred margins and a splinter haemorrhage without any signs of vitritis on his left eye. Left eye visual acuity was 1/10. There was no relative afferent pupil defect, but color vision was reduced to 9/12 on his left eye when measured with Ishihara plates. His right eye showed no pathological signs with 10/10 visual acuity. Patient did not have hypertension, diabetes mellitus but only mild hypercholesterolemia. Laboratory work-up regarding infectious diseases was negative. Orbital and cranial magnetic resonance imaging findings were unremarkable. Erythrocyte sedimentation rate was 16 mm/h. Detailed history revealed recurrent oral and genital ulcers and papulopustular lesions of the extremities. Pathergy test was positive. The patient was diagnosed as complete Behcet’s disease. Systemic steroid and azothioprine treatments were started but his vision did not improve. Relation between acute optic neuropathy and Behçet’s disease, and treatment options were discussed. Every patient few or without sistemic risk factors for non-arteritic ischemic optic neuropathy (NAION) or patients showing a quite atypical presentation of NAION should be evaluated for Behçet’s disease.