COMPARING COMBINATION OF PHOTODYNAMIC THERAPY AND INTRAVITREAL RANIBIZUMAB (IVR) THERAPY WITH IVR MONOTHERAPY ON THE CHOROIDAL NEOVASCULAR MEMBRANES

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Purpose: Comparing combination of photodynamic therapy and intravitreal ranibizumab (IVR) therapy with IVR monotherapy on the choroidal neovascular membranes (CNVM).

Materials and Methods:
40 eyes of 40 patients which had exudative AMD were evaluated at FSM Training and Researching Hospital between 2009 May and 2010 November. Patients were divided into two groups randomly. Only IVR injection was applied to group 1 (7 male, 13 female) and combination of IVR injection and PDT was applied to group 2 (10 male, 10 female). Best corrected visual acuity (BCVA), intraocular pressure (IOP), biomicroscopic and fundus examinations of the patients were performed before treatment and during the controls after the treatment. IVR injections for all patients were done after one, two and three months after diagnosis. PDT was performed to the second group seven – ten days after the first IVR injection.

Findings: For the periods; before treatment, first month, second month, third month and sixth month, BCVA values according to LogMAR were 1,00, 0,84, 0,85, 0,77, 0,78 for group one and 0,68, 0,69, 0,57, 0,72, 0,67 for group two respectively. Similarly, for the periods; before treatment, first month, second month, third month and sixth month, OCT macula thickness were 259,17 µm, 247,07 µm, 246,76 µm, 253,86 µm, 255,02 µm for group one and 281,51 µm, 272,71 µm, 260,47 µm, 251,52 µm, 262,38 µm for group two respectively. After six months, BCVA was increased or remained the same at 16 (94%) patients of group 1 and 13 (76%) patients of group 2, decreased at 1 (5,8%) patients of group 1 and 4 (23%) patients of group 2.

Result: Combined PDT and IVR treatment do not have a significant benefit on monotherapy of IVR in means of better visual acuity and anatomic healing.