

# Highlights from this issue

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doi:10.1136/bjophthalmol-2013-303177

## VEGF TRAP-EYE FOR CRVO: GALILEO STUDY

Holz *et al* evaluated intravitreal VEGF Trap-Eye (VTE) in 177 patients with macular oedema secondary to central retinal vein occlusion (CRVO). In this double-masked study, patients were randomised (3 : 2 ratio) to intravitreal injections of VTE 2 mg or sham procedure every 4 weeks for 24 weeks. From baseline until week 24, more patients receiving VTE (60.2%) gained  $\geq 15$  letters compared with those receiving sham injections (22.1%). Mean CRT decreased by 449  $\mu\text{m}$  and 169  $\mu\text{m}$  in the VTE and sham groups. The most frequent ocular adverse events in the VTE arm were associated with the injection. The authors conclude that VTE provides a new treatment option for CRVO.

## EFFECT OF PROPHYLACTIC LASER IRIDOTOMY ON CORNEAL ENDOTHELIAL CELL DENSITY

Kumar *et al* assesses the effect of prophylactic laser peripheral iridotomy (LPI) on corneal endothelial cell density (ECD) and morphology in primary angle closure suspects over 3 years. In this prospective cohort study, 230 subjects underwent LPI in one eye, while the fellow eye was untreated. In eyes that underwent LPI, ECD was significantly lower at year 1 (2462) and year 3 (2510) compared with baseline (2609). There was also a similar decrease in ECD in fellow untreated eyes from baseline. The clinical significance of these observations remains to be investigated.

## STEREOACUITY TESTS IN PRESCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

Afsari *et al* evaluated the range of normal stereoacuity thresholds and diagnostic reliability of stereoacuity tests in 1606 preschool-aged children. Lang-Stereotest II (LangII) was attempted on all children, Stereo Smile Stereoacuity II Test (SSST) was conducted on children aged  $<30$  months and on older children who

could not complete the Randot Preschool Stereoacuity Test (RPST). Modes for the age groups 24–47 months and 48–72 months were: 200 arcsec for both age groups (LangII test); 120 arcsec and 60 arcsec with the SSST; 100 arcsec and 60 arcsec with the RPST. RPST was found to be most reliable in detecting amblyopia, strabismus and anisometropia.

## FELLOW EYE VITRECTOMY FOR PDR

Hwang *et al* describe the rate of fellow eye vitrectomy for proliferative diabetic retinopathy (PDR) in an inner city population (434 consecutive eyes of 358 patients). Fellow eyes underwent diabetic vitrectomy at a rate of 24% within 1 year and 36% within 5 years of primary vitrectomy. Primary eye surgical indication (non-clearing VH with extrafoveal traction retinal detachment) and younger age were significant predictors of need for fellow eye surgery.

## ACUTE ANTERIOR UVEITIS AND GENERAL HEALTH

Maca conducted a case-control study on 35 patients with an active AAU and 45 healthy peers to compare depression (Beck depression inventory, Zerssen Mood Scale) and general health status (Short form-8 health survey (SF8)). Furthermore, patients were questioned regarding the presence of distress, occupational satisfaction and impairment in performing daily life tasks. AAU patients exhibited depression, reduction of general health, and impairment in performing daily life tasks. The results underline the importance of offering psychological support to these patients.

## RANIBIZUMAB OR BEVACIZUMAB IN PATIENTS WITH NEOVASCULAR AMD

Ilse Krebs *et al* (MANTA research group) conducted a prospective multicentre trial (10 Austrian centres) in treatment naive nAMD patients (317) randomised to treatment either with 0.5 mg ranibizumab or 1.25 mg bevacizumab. Both groups

received three initial monthly injections and thereafter, monthly evaluation. Re-treatment was scheduled as needed. At month 12, there was comparable mean increase of visual acuity of 4.9 letters (ETDRS) in the bevacizumab and 4.1 letters in the ranibizumab group. Furthermore, there were no significant differences in the decrease of retinal thickness, change of lesion size and number of adverse events between the groups.

## MACULAR OCT IN AMBLYOPIA

Al-Haddad *et al* studied macular morphology in 45 amblyopic eyes using high-definition spectral domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT). Central foveal thickness was measured and areas of the different retinal layers were computed within 500  $\mu\text{m}$  from the foveal centre nasally and temporally. Qualitatively, the bulge in the inner segment/outer segment junction of the central fovea was noted to be attenuated or absent in 60% of amblyopic eyes compared with 29% of normal eyes ( $p=0.02$ ). Mean foveal thickness was significantly increased in amblyopic (229  $\mu\text{m}$ ) versus fellow eyes (222  $\mu\text{m}$ ). The qualitative and quantitative differences in macular features possibly represent signs of retinal immaturity.

## DRUSEN DETECTION BY CONFOCAL APERTURE-MODULATED SLO

Diniz *et al* evaluated the efficiency of drusen detection by Nidek F-10 confocal scanning laser ophthalmoscope (SLO) using various infrared confocal apertures (central, ring, aperture on the right side (AR) and left side (AL)) and differential contrast (DC) strategies in 11 eyes with non-neovascular AMD. Drusen number values obtained with the AR mode were higher than for the colour photographs. Area measurements were also significantly higher in the AR and AL modes when compared with the colour photographs. The addition of the DC did not seem to improve drusen detection.