Needle aspiration of a traumatic subperiosteal haematoma of the orbit

Subperiosteal haematomas of the orbit are an uncommon cause of proptosis after trauma. Complications include diplopia, persisting mass, and compressive optic neuropathy. Treatment options include observation, needle aspiration, and surgical evacuation. In symptomatic patients without indications for orbital exploration, treatment with needle aspiration is less invasive than surgical drainage. We report a case of a traumatic subperiosteal haematoma successfully treated with needle aspiration, demonstrating that in appropriate patients, needle aspiration can result in resolution of symptoms without a more invasive procedure.

Case report
A 9 year old girl presented with diplopia 4 days after falling off a fence and striking the right side of her face. She denied decreased visual acuity, eye pain, or previous history of diplopia or proptosis. Her past medical and ocular histories were unremarkable.

On examination, her visual acuity was 6/6 in both eyes. Pupils were equal and reactive with no afferent pupilary defect. Intraocular pressure was normal in both eyes. Her right eye was displaced inferotemporally, and Her- tel exophthalmometry showed 3 mm of proptosis of the right eye. The right eye was restricted in upgaze. External examination of the left eye, anterior segment examination of both eyes, and fundus examination of both eyes were normal.

Computed tomography (CT) of the orbits revealed an oval mass along the roof of the right orbit measuring 3.1 cm × 1.1 cm (Fig 1) with no bone discontinuity or fracture. Clinical history and CT were consistent with the diagnosis of subperiosteal haematoma. The patient was observed, and on follow up examination a week later she described increasing diplopia. Her eye continued to be displaced (Fig 2A), and there was restriction in upgaze, medial gaze, and lateral gaze. Treatment was recommended because of progression.

Drainage of the haematoma was performed by needle aspiration.1,2 With the patient under general anaesthesia, a 22 gauge, 1.5 inch needle on a syringe was advanced transcunaneous- ously into the superior orbit lateral to the superior orbital notch until blood appeared in the syringe; 7 ml of dark red blood returned. The proptosis immediately resolved. On the first postoperative day, she had no proptosis or diplopia. Visual acuity was 6/6, and extraocular movements were full. She remained asymptomatic with a normal examination (Fig 2B) at the 6 month follow up visit.

Comment
Orbital subperiosteal haemorrhages are rare, resulting from rupture of subperiosteal vessels or extension of subgaleal haematomas.3,4 Haematomas develop acutely or within days of orbital trauma. Clinical findings include acute proptosis, limitation of motility, and compressive optic neuropathy.1 Chronic complications may occur from infection, expansion, strabismus, chordoidal folds, or persisting mass.5 CT demonstrated a well defined, extraconal, blood dense mass adjacent to an orbital wall. Magnetic resonance imaging identified stages of blood degradation and differentiated blood from neoplasms. Differential diagnosis includes subperiosteal abscess, rhabdomyosarcoma, orbital pseudotumour, lymphangioma, carotid cavernous fistula, arteriovenous malformation, orbital haematoma, or frontal sinus mucocele.

Management options include observation, needle aspiration, and surgical evacuation. Small haemorrhages without decreased vision may be observed for spontaneous resolution. Intervention is recommended for compressive optic neuropathy, progressive proptosis, suspicion of a tumour, or rebleed.1 Drainage has been performed successfully through needle aspiration2 and surgical evacuation.7 Needle aspiration is less invasive, but does not remove clots or stop active bleeding. Orbital exploration allows removal of coagulated blood, drain placement, and fracture repair. In a review of 11 cases in the literature, six patients underwent needle aspiration, four patients underwent surgical evacuation, and one case spontaneously resolved after 6 months.7

Subperiosteal haematoma of the orbit must be considered in the differential diagnosis of unilateral proptosis after trauma. Haemato mas can be observed when vision is not threatened. However, early intervention can hasten the resolution of symptoms and prevent chronic complications. Needle aspiration in appropriate cases is a successful and minimally invasive method of treatment.

References
3 Pope-Pogram LM, Hamill MB. Post traumatic subgaleal haematoma with subperiosteal

Figure 1 CT scan demonstrates a well circumscribed mass in the right superior orbit.

Figure 2 (A) Preoperative photograph shows proptosis and inferotemporal displacement of the right eye. (B) One week postoperative photograph demonstrates resolution of proptosis and displacement.

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Stellate tarsal conjunctival lesions in ocular adenoviral infection

Adenoviruses are a prevalent cause of viral conjunctivitis. Infected patients can present with a number of signs and symptoms, with varying degrees of clinical severity. Common examination findings include follicular conjunctivitis, serous discharge, keratitis, preauricular lymphadenopathy, and subconjunctival haemorrhages. Focal tarsal plate lesions have not previously been reported as being a feature of adenoviral conjunctivitis. We describe a case of adenoviral conjunctivitis in which the patient had distinctive stellate tarsal lesions in both eyes.

Case report
A 21 year old man presented with a 1 week history of bilateral red, painful eyes associated with photophobia, blurring of vision, and a mucous discharge. There was no history of respiratory tract infection, genitourinary symptoms or infectious contacts. Best corrected visual acuities were 6/6 bilaterally. On examination he was found to have unusual creamy white stellate lesions on his tarsal plates (Fig 1). These focal lesions were, on average, 1 x 1 mm in size and subepithelial in nature. In addition, both conjunctivae were hyperaemic, subepithelial corneal infiltrates were present, and there was a golden yellow mucous discharge.

A clinical diagnosis of adenoviral keratoconjunctivitis was made. The enzyme immunoassay test (Adenolyme, Cambridge Biotechnology, Worcester, MA, USA) confirmed the presence of adenovirus in conjunctival swabs. Microtrak HSV-1/HSV-2 culture confirmation typing test (Syva Co, Palo Alto, CA, USA) failed to isolate HSV from either eye and polymerase chain reaction (PCR) to detect Chlamydia trachomatis was also negative.

No bacterial species were isolated.

The patient was initially treated with topical chlorotetracline ointment four times a day and prednisolone drops three times a day, to each eye. When reviewed 1 week later, there was a marginal improvement in symptoms, although best corrected visual acuities had fallen to 6/9 bilaterally. The topical prednisolone was replaced by fluorometholone and the chlorotetracline was discontinued. Two weeks later, the patient’s symptoms had markedly improved and the topical steroid was reduced in frequency and then stopped. The visual acuities had by this time returned to 6/6 in both eyes. However, both the white tarsal stellate lesions and the corneal subepithelial infiltrates had persisted 2 months after complete resolution of symptoms.

Comment
Corneal subepithelial infiltrates are a known complication of adenoviral conjunctivitis.1 These lesions usually become apparent within 10–14 days after onset of symptoms and in some cases may persist for months or even years after the acute phase of the infection. Although the opacities gradually fade with time, those associated with reduced visual acuity may require a course of topical corticosteroids. However, return of the opacities can be seen with discontinuation of the corticosteroids.2 In cases of prolonged follicular conjunctivitis, equivocal ocular signs, or suspected superimposed infections, specimen culture is an important tool to aid diagnosis.3,4

Although small star-shaped ulcers (herpetic stellates) have been documented as a feature of adenoviral conjunctivitis, we describe a case of adenoviral conjunctivitis in which the patient had distinctive stellate tarsal lesions in both eyes.

References

Drug induced acute myopia with supraciliary choroidal effusion in a patient with Wegener’s granulomatosis

Acute transient myopia with shallowning of the anterior chamber is a rare idiosyncratic response to systemic and topical use of many medications5 including sulfonamides.2 Although many such cases have been reported in the past, they have been relatively rare in recent years. A-scan ultrasonography has been used to measure anterior chamber depth and lens thickness during the myopic phase.3 Ultrasound biomicroscopic (UBM) imaging during the acute phase has only been reported twice.4 We present a case of drug induced bilateral transient myopia with shallow anterior chambers, where UBM aided in the diagnosis and provided clues to the mechanism responsible for this reaction.

Case report
A 39 year old white woman complained of acute onset of blurry vision and decreased visual acuity at distance starting on the morning of the day she presented to her primary ophthalmologist. On examination by the primary ophthalmologist the patient was found to have a myopic shift of 7.00 diptres in both eyes and was noted to have narrow angles. She was referred the same day to JD for treatment of bilateral angle closure.

Her medical history was significant for Wegener’s granulomatosis diagnosed 1 year earlier and confirmed with a renal biopsy. She had been treated with Cytoxan and prednisone, despite which renal failure ensued. Approximately 4 months before presentation the patient had begun having blurry vision 1 month before presentation she was started on peritoneal dialysis. The patient was maintained on a regimen of immunosuppressives, which included Cytoxan and prednisone. Twelve hours before presentation, she had received the first dose of Bactrim (160 mg trimethoprim and 800 mg sulphamethoxazole) as prophylaxis for Pneumocystis carinii. Her examination was significant for mild dehydration. The patient had recently noted a negative fluid balance on peritoneal dialysis. The patient had a negative family history for glaucoma and her social history was not contributory. On examination (at approximately 4.30 pm on the day of presentation), visual acuity with her current correction of −6.00 −1.75 × 173° right eye and −4.00 −2.25 × 180° left eye was 20/20 both eyes. Manifest refraction improved visual acuity to 20/20 both eyes with −9.25 −2.00 × 180° right eye and −8.00 −2.25 × 180° left eye. Confrontational visual fields were intact. External examination revealed normal lids in both eyes. Pupils were 4 mm reactive in both eyes with no afferent pupillary defect. Slit lamp examination revealed normal corneas.

Anterior chambers were shallow in both eyes. Goldmann applanation tonometry revealed intraocular pressure (IOP) of 25 mm Hg right eye and 26 mm Hg left eye. Zeiss four mirror gonioscopy was performed and revealed slit angles in both eyes. Indentation gonioscopy opened the angle to +1 right eye. No PAS could be observed. Indentation gonioscopy of the left eye opened the angles slightly more, however only the top of the trabecular meshwork could be visualised. Undilated funduscopy examination with a 90 D lens revealed an intact posterior pole. The optic nerves appeared to have small central cups in both eyes.

Figure 1 Creamy white stellate lesions on the tarsal plates.
UBM was subsequently performed (Fig 1), and confirmed the presence of shallow anterior chambers with narrow angles in both eyes. The angle opening distance (AOD) (distance between the posterior corneal surface and anterior iris surface measured 500 µm from the scleral spur) was measured on the UBM images according to Pavlin. AOD was less than 10 µm in both eyes. In addition, anterior chamber depth (ACD) was measured in one available image right eye and was found to be 1.7 mm. A ciliochoroidal effusion extending in all quadrants was present in both eyes. The ciliary body appeared slightly engorged and rotated anteriorly.

The patient was advised to discontinue Bactrim and was treated with fluorometholone and topical aqueous suppressants. On the following day, the anterior chambers were slightly deeper and the myopic shift was now only 2.25D. This further decreased over the following days with progressive deepening of the anterior chamber. One week after discontinuation of Bactrim, the patient’s visual acuity was 20/20 in both eyes with her old prescription. Zeiss four mirror gonioscopy revealed grade IV open angles in both eyes. Goldmann applanation tonometry revealed IOP of 10 mm Hg in both eyes off aqueous suppressants. UBM was repeated (Fig 2), confirming complete resolution of the choroidal effusion and significant reduction in the size of the ciliary body. AOD was 203 µm right eye and 240 µm left eye. Dilated fundus examination revealed normal periphery, normal discs and a cup to disc ratio approximately of 0.2 both eyes, and normal maculas in both eyes.

Comment

We report a case of acute transient myopia in a patient with renal failure secondary to Puumala virus multiplies in capillary endothelial cells, causing endothelial wall damage and increased capillary permeability to plasma and red blood cells. Leaky capillaries lead to ciliary body oedema and subsequent forward displacement of the iris-lens diaphragm, which is responsible for acute myopia, shallowing of the anterior chamber, and acute angle closure.

To our knowledge acute myopia and ciliary body oedema due to renal failure has not been described as an ocular manifestation of Puumala virus. The Puumala virus can theoretically occur from osmotic changes or metabolic alterations produced by sulphonamides. However, lens oedema is not present in all cases of sulpha drug and other drug induced acute myopia. Even when lens oedema is present, it cannot always fully explain the change in refraction, which is sometimes up to 7 dioptres, and the degree of anterior chamber shallowing in some patients.

Although we cannot completely rule out lens oedema as a possible mechanism, as we did not perform A-scan measurements, we believe that the anterior rotation and oedema of the ciliary body causing an anterior movement of the lens can fully explain the myopic shift seen in our patient.

The UBM images support this proposed mechanism for the pathogenesis of acute drug induced myopia. The oedematous ciliary body became anteriorly rotated secondary to a choroidal effusion. This caused anterior movement of the lens-iris diaphragm with subsequent narrowing of the angle. Rotation of the ciliary processes might have also caused reduced myopia where ultrasound biomicroscopy has aided in the diagnosis of this extremely rare drug reaction. Although, this condition generally has a benign course if recognised early, it can potentially have devastating consequences if left untreated or misdiagnosed as primary angle closure glaucoma. Physicians should be aware of this side effect of sulphonamides and their derivates and warn patients to report changes in their vision when initiating therapy with such agents.

Acknowledgements

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A 75 year old woman presented to the dermatology clinic with a 3 month history of nodules on her forehead and right cheek. The nodules were 2-3 cm in diameter and were firm, red and tender to the touch. On clinical examination the cutaneous changes were consistent with lymphocytoma cutis. The lesions were treated with topical corticosteroids and the patient was commenced on chlorambucil chemotherapy with prompt resolution of the cutaneous changes.

**Cutaneous presentation of orbital follicular lymphoma: clinical differential diagnosis with lymphocytoma cutis**

Cutaneous involvement from primary orbital lymphoma is uncommon. We report a patient with follicular lymphoma of the orbit who presented initially with cutaneous lesions clinically resembling lymphocytoma cutis which subsequently proved to be metastasis from the orbit.

**Case report**

A 75 year old woman presented to the dermatology clinic with a 3 month history of nodules on the right cheek and forehead. Examination revealed two soft erythematous nodules, 2-3 cm in diameter. The nodules were firm, red and tender to the touch. On clinical examination the cutaneous changes were consistent with lymphocytoma cutis. The lesions were treated with topical corticosteroids and the patient was commenced on chlorambucil chemotherapy with prompt resolution of the cutaneous changes.

Histopathological examination of the biopsy showed a lymphomatous infiltrate with CD20+ and CD79a+ B cell phenotype. Immunophenotypic and molecular genetic features of the lymphoma were consistent with follicular lymphoma of grade 1. Staging investigations showed no evidence of lymphoma in other sites and the lesions were deemed to represent primary cutaneous disease.

In conclusion, lymphocytoma cutis is a highly heterogeneous group of reactive lymphoproliferative conditions. The clinical differential diagnosis includes many other dermatological conditions, and a high index of suspicion is required to make the correct diagnosis. When a clinical picture consistent with lymphocytoma cutis is presented, a thorough histological examination and immunophenotyping is essential to rule out primary cutaneous lymphoma. This case highlights the importance of a multidisciplinary approach to the management of cutaneous lesions, particularly when there is a suspicion of primary cutaneous disease.
different from the lymph node counterparts and, unlike those in the skin, are bcl-2 positive and bare the t (14; 18). Early extraorbital spread is regarded a sign of more aggressive behaviour and a potential indicator for poorer prognosis. Secondary cutaneous involvement from a primary orbital lymphoma is an uncommon event with only one case described in the literature while the primary cutaneous lymphomas occur more frequently.6

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References

NOTICES

Childhood blindness

The latest issue of Community Eye Health (No 40) discusses new issues in childhood blindness, with an editorial by Clare Gilbert, senior lecturer at the International Centre for Eye Health. For further information please contact: Journal of Community Eye Health, International Centre for Eye Health, Institute of Ophthalmology, 11–43 Bath Street, London EC1Y 9EL, UK (tel: +44 (0)20 7608 6910; fax: +44 (0)20 7250 3207; email: eye@jceh.co.uk; website: www.jceh.co.uk). Annual subscription (4 issues) UK£25/US$40. Free to workers in developing countries.

International Centre for Eye Health

The International Centre for Eye Health has published a new edition of the Standard List of Medicines, Equipment, Instruments and Optical Supplies (2001) for eye care services in developing countries. It is compiled by the Task Force of the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness. Further details: Sue Stevens, International Centre for Eye Health, 11–43 Bath Street, London EC1Y 9EL, UK (tel: +44 (0)20 7608 6910; email: eye@jceh.co.uk).

Second Sight

Second Sight, a UK based charity whose aims are to eliminate the backlog of cataract blind in India by the year 2020 and to establish strong links between Indian and British ophthalmologists, is regularly sending volunteer surgeons to India. Details can be found at the charity website (www.secondsight.org.uk) or by contacting Dr Lucy Matthen (hacymatthen@yahoo.com).

SPECIFIC EYE CONDITION(S) (SPECS)

Specific Eye Condition(s) (SPECS) is a not-for-profit organisation which acts as an umbrella organisation for support groups of any conditions or syndrome with an integral eye disorder. SPECS represents over fifty different organisations related to eye disorders ranging from conditions that are relatively common to very rare syndromes. We also include groups who offer support of a more general nature to visually impaired and blind people. Support groups meet regularly in the Boardroom at Moorfields Eye Hospital to offer support to each other, share experiences and explore new ways of working together. The web site www.eyeconditions.org.uk acts as a portal giving direct access to support groups own sites. The SPECS web page is a valuable resource for professionals and may also be of interest to people with a visual impairment or who are blind. For further details about SPECS contact: Specs Development Officer (tel: +44 (0)1803 524238; email: k@eyeconditions.org.uk; www.eyeconditions.org.uk).

12th Meeting of the European Association for the Study of Diabetic Eye Complications (EASDEC)

The 12th meeting of the EASDEC will be held on 24–26 May 2002 in Udine, Italy. The deadline for abstracts is 15 February 2002. Three travel grants for young members (less than 35 years of age at the time of the meeting) are available. For information on the travel grants, please contact Pr CD Agardh, President of EASDEC, Malmö University Hospital, SE-205 08 Malmö, Sweden (tel: +46 40 33 10 16; fax: +46 40 33 73 66; email: carl-david.agardh@endo.mas.lu.se). Further details: NORD EST CONGRESSI, Via Aquileia, 21–33100 Udine, Italy (tel: +39 0432 21391; fax: +39 0432 50687; email: nordest.congressi@ud.nettuno.it).

3rd Interdisciplinary Symposium on the Treatment of Autoimmune Disorders

The 3rd Interdisciplinary Symposium on the Treatment of Autoimmune Disorders will be held in Leipzig, Germany on the 6–8 June 2002. Topics to be covered include: basic aspects of autoimmune diseases, experimental therapeutic concepts, and clinical studies providing novel concepts or novel focus on established therapies. There will also be the presentation of the Niels-Illa-Richter Award (application deadline is April 2002, further details on the web site). Further details: Prof. Dr. med. Michael Sticherline, Department of Dermatology, University of Leipzig (email: sticherline@medizin.uni-leipzig.de; website: www.autoimmun.org); Fördergesellschaft zur Therapie von Autoimmunerkrankungen e.V. (email: autoimmun.org@gmx.de).

International Society for Behçet’s Disease

The 10th International Congress on Behçet’s Disease will be held in Berlin 27–29 June 2002. Further details: Professor Ch Zouboulis (email: zoubbere@zedat.fu-berlin.de).

Singapore National Eye Centre

5th International Meeting

The Singapore National Eye Centre 5th International Meeting will be held on 3–5 August 2002 in Singapore. Further details: Ms Amy Lim, Organising Secretariat, Singapore National Eye Centre, 11 Third Hospital Avenue, Singapore 168751 (tel: (65) 322 8574; fax: (65) 227 7290; email: Amy_Lim@sncc.com.sg).

BEAVRS Meeting

The next BEAVRS meeting will be held in the Dalmahoy Hotel near Edinburgh on 31 October to 1 November 2002. Further details: Susan Campbell, Medical Secretary, Gartnavel General Hospital (email: susan.j.campbell.wg@northglasgow.scot.nhs.uk).

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