00-13.00 **Room BIETTI**

POSTER SESSION

INTRAOCULAR INFLAMMATION

Chairpersons: C.P. HERBORT (Switzerland)
A.G. SECCHI (Italy)

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A WELL DOCUMENTED CASE OF VARICELLA-ZOSTER VIRUS RETINOPATHY IN AN AIDS PATIENT

C. Meenken[1], G.J. van den Horn[1], D. Troost[2], J.H. de Boer[3]; Department of Ophthalmology[1], Department of Neuropathology[2], Academical Medical Center, University of Amsterdam; Netherlands Ophthalmic Research Institute[3], Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

A case history of a sudden and painless rapidly progressive visual loss in both eyes in an AIDS patient is presented. Ocular deterioration was found to be due to Varicella-zoster Virus (VZV) infection. This diagnosis was suggested from aqueous fluid antibody analysis. Postmortem investigations of the brain and the eyes by means of in situ hybridization and polymerase chain reaction (PCR) techniques confirmed the diagnosis.

VZV retinopathy in AIDS patients shows a different symptomatology compared to immune competent patients and therefore seems to be a distinct clinical entity.

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HLA-ANTIGENS IN HUMAN EPIKERATOPHAKIA LENTICULES

H. Tabandeh, C.K. Rostron; St. George's Hospital, London, United Kingdom.

Purpose. Immune rejection has not been reported in epikeratophakia or other types of lamellar keratoplasty. However, some of the patients who undergo this procedure require a penetrating corneal graft at a later stage. The limited data currently available indicate increased risk of rejection in these patients. This may be due to sensitization to donor antigens in the epikeratophakia graft. This study aimed to investigate the presence of HLA antigens in epikeratophakia lenticules prepared by dry state lathing.

Methods. Six epikeratophakia lenticules prepared by dry state lathing were rehydrated in balanced salt solution for 45 minutes. The lenticules were snapfrozen in liquid nitrogen, transversely sectioned at 10µ intervals and studied for presence of HLA antigens using immunoperoxidase technique. Fresh tonsillar lymphoid tissue was used as control.

Results. HLA antigens were detected in the control tonsillar tissue. HLA-ABC antigens were detected in all 6 lenticules. HLA-DR was present in low concentration in 4 and could not be detected in 2 lenticules. HLA-DW1, DQW3, DPW2 and DPW4 were absent.

Conclusions. This study documents the presence of HLA-ABC and to a lesser degree HLA-DR in the lenticules prepared by dry state lathing.

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MODIFICATION OF RETINAL MANIFESTATIONS IN YOUNG THALASSEMICS WITH AIDS

M. Fotopoulou[1], A. Kalou[1], S. Dalakos[1], S. Nikolaidou[2], B. Simeonidou[1], P. Kosmidis[1], P. Paikos[1]; "The Aghia Sophia" Children's Hospital[1], Eye Clinic; Pammakaristos Hospital[2], Department of Microbiology; St. Savvas Hospital[3], Eye Clinic, Athens, Greece.

Objective. The aim of this study was to investigate the nature, the forum and the position of lesions in retinal involvement in young thalassemic patients with AIDS. The gravity, the onset of the symptoms and the duration of the lesions have also been studied in relation to the existing thalassemia.

Methods. We examined 45 children and young HIV+ thalassemics. Fifteen (15) of them suffered from AIDS and eleven (11) of these AIDS patient presented eye manifestations (73,3%). Eight (8) of the patients with eye manifestations, presented retinal involvement (72,7%).

Patients examination included visual acuity, slit lamp examination, fundus photography and fluorescein angiography.

Results. Non infections retinal microvasculopathy was found in 62,5% of AIDS patients. Hemorrhage was intense in all forms of retinal involvement. Intense vasculitis of long duration was observed in 3 patients.

Conclusions. In young thalassemic patients with AIDS, retinal involvement is grave, quickly progressing and marked by catastrophic hemorrhage, ischaemia, vascular abnormalities and persistent vasculitis. It is interesting that in six of eight patients, the retinal involvement occurred 1-2 days before the programmed transfusion for their thalassemia.

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FREQUENCY AND KIND OF OCULAR MANIFESTATIONS IN THE SEVERAL STAGES OF SICKNESS IN 80 PATIENTS WITH HIV INFECTION

M. Ferrante[1], G. Romitelli[1], C. Nacca[2], V. Messina[2], C. Casella[2]; Department of Ophthalmology[1], Department of Infectious Sickness[2], Provincial Hospital of Caserta, Caserta, Italy.

Presentation is made of the ocular manifestations found in a group of 80 patients with HIV infection examined, in the period january '90 - november '94, in the Hospital of Caserta. These ocular manifestations, in all of the examined cases, were put in relation with clinical general situation and sickness stage of evolution considered on the ground of the number of CD_4/mm3 of blood (classification of Italian Superior Institute of Health based on specifications of CDC of Atlanta).

Statistics about the frequency of several ocular affections are reported; besides, the evolution of these affections, even in relation with general clinical situation and administered therapy was observed with the help of photographic images, clinical valuation and, sometimes, fluorescent angiography.

The authors conclude noticing that, in the examined patients, the most frequent ocular manifestation of the HIV infection is the cotton-wool spots observed, sometimes, even in stage 2 or 1 of the sickness (respectively with CD4 ≥ 500/mm3 and CD_4 = 200-499/mm3) and in the last stage the most frequent affection is the cytomegalovirus retinitis, present in about the 15% of patients.

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CRYOGLOBULINS IN UVEITIS

S. Bosnjakovska, B. Polenakovic, V. Celevti, Z. Arnaudovski; Ophthalmology Clinic, University Sent Kliment and Methody, Skopje, Macedonia.

The authors examined cryoglobulins in a group of patients with anterior uveits and in a group of patients with posterior uveitis by means of a prospective study. Total cryoglobulins were measured by the method of Lowry - identification of cryoglobulins with oucherlony, Scheidegger and the quantity of the elements of cryoglobulins with the method of Mancini.

The authors exam the activity of antigamma globulins with Reuma factor.

The purpose of our examination is determination of the cryoglobulin levels in the uveitis with the different aethiology and correlation between the level of the cryoglobulins only as separate form of the illness.

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PATHOGENESIS OF INTERMEDIATE UVEITIS IN CHILDREN. INDICATIONS TO CYCLOSPORIN-A TREATMENT

L.A. Katargina, O. Slepova, G. Krichevskaya; Helmholtz Research Institute of Eye Diseases, Moscow, Russia.

Purpose. To study immunological aspects of the pathogenesis of intermediate uveitis (IU) in children.

Methods. ELISA, immunofluorescent test, lymphocyte blasttransformation test (68 patients with IU, age 2-15 years).

Results. At an early stage we found antigens HSV and/or CMV in conjunctival scrabs in 46% of patients, positive reaction of lymphocytes with vital antigens in 66% (comparing with 23% in other forms of pediatric uveitis). At this time there was not any antibodies to