Characteristics of Pentosan Polysulfate Sodium-Associated Maculopathy and Similarities with Other Maculopathies Commonly Managed in a Retina Practice

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Purpose:
To describe characteristics of pentosan polysulfate sodium (PPS) associated maculopathy and its similarities with other maculopathies commonly encountered in a large retina practice cohort.

Methods:
Patients exposed to PPS were identified through EMR query. Retrospective chart review was used to obtain patient characteristics, examination findings, and retinal imaging. Patients were classified in Likely, Unlikely, or Possible maculopathy groups.

Results:
Of 31 patients (62 eyes), median age was 70 (24-104) and majority were female (87%). Mean BCVA was 0.3 +/- 0.4 logMAR at presentation. The most common reason for referral was AMD (29%). Maculopathy grades were assigned as Likely (29%), Possible (26%), or Unlikely (45%). CNV was noted in 19% of all eyes and 22% of the Likely group. The Possible and Likely groups had higher age of presentation (p<0.05) compared to Unlikely group.

Conclusions:
This study reveals a high percentage (55%) of patients with a history of PPS exposure show features of Likely or Possible maculopathy. It also suggests an age-related component to PPS-associated maculopathy, and further describes characteristics that may be used in screening, diagnosis, and grading. It further highlights similarities with common maculopathies such as AMD, especially in advanced stages, and the importance of screening and recognizing at-risk patients.