Clinical Outcomes And Treatment of Eyes with Neovascular Age-Related Macular Degeneration Following Endophthalmitis

Stavros N. Moysidis, MD
Retina Society 2020
Disclosures

• No relevant financial disclosures.
Summary

• NVAMD became quiescent in 13.6% of eyes after resolution of endophthalmitis.

• Patients required less frequent intravitreal injections for NVAMD after endophthalmitis.

• There was an initial decrease in VA after endophthalmitis that improved after reinitiating anti-VEGF treatment.

• There was no association between anti-VEGF drug, anesthetic choice, povidone concentration, or any intra-procedure variable and the rate of endophthalmitis.
Purpose

• To evaluate the clinical course of patients with neovascular age-related macular degeneration (NVAMD) after developing endophthalmitis.
Methods

• Multicenter, retrospective, case series, 5 geographic locations

• Charts of 196,598 intravitreal injections performed for patients with NVAMD, treated between April 22, 2013 and October 15, 2018, were searched for the development of endophthalmitis.

• A large array of data was collected.
Patient Characteristics

• Mean age: 84.7±0.98 years (range 64 - 103 years)
• Females: 72%
• Race:
  • White: 94.7%
  • Latino: 2.7%
  • Black: 1.3%
  • Asian: 1.3%
• Pseudophakic: 88.0%
Incidence of Endophthalmitis

• 75 cases of endophthalmitis per 196,598 intravitreal injections
  • incidence 0.03815% (1 in 2,620)
Endophthalmitis Treatment

• Intravitreal Tap and Injection: 96%
  • Intravitreal Vancomycin (1 mg/0.1 mL) and Ceftazidime (2.25 mg/0.1 mL)
  • 18.1% also received intravitreal dexamethasone (400 mcg/0.1 mL)

• Immediate Pars Plana Vitrectomy: 4%
Intravitreal Culture

• Positive culture: 30.7%
  • 69.6% Staphylococcus
  • 21.8% Streptococcus
  • 4.3% Pseudomonas
  • 4.3% Enterococcus
Intra-procedure Variables & Endophthalmitis

- Analysis of all 196,598 intravitreal anti-VEGF injections showed no significant associations between any intra-procedure variable and the rate of endophthalmitis
  - anti-VEGF drug (p=0.29; aflibercept, bevacizumab, ranibizumab)
  - anesthetic choice (p=0.26; 2% lidocaine gel, 0.5% tetravisc, subconjunctival lidocaine 2%, or topical tetracaine 1%)
  - injection site (p=0.33)
  - povidone concentration (p=0.22; 2.5%, 5%, 10%, or combo)
  - speculum use (p=0.35)
  - glove use (p=0.48)
  - strict no talking policy (p=0.64)
  - mask use (p=0.47)
  - post-injection povidone (p=0.71)
  - topical antibiotics pre- or post-injection (p=0.62)
  - eyewash use (p=0.92; fresh bottle each time, reused bottle, no wash)
  - volume of injections performed (p=0.50)
  - treating physician (p=0.82)
  - clinic location (p=0.95)
NVAMD Disease Activity After Endophthalmitis

• 17 patients (22.7%) were not re-treated for NVAMD
  • Mean follow-up 115 ± 8.4 weeks

• In 10 cases (13.3%) due to quiescence or CNVM involution

• In 7 cases (9.3%) due to poor prognosis
NVAMD Treatment Interval post-Endophthalmitis

- Treatment for NVAMD was reinitiated in 58 patients (77.3%)
  - At a mean of 13.8 ± 1.48 weeks after endophthalmitis

- Patients required less frequent anti-VEGF injections after endophthalmitis
  - Interval of 7.36 ± 0.61 weeks prior vs 11.6 ± 1.78 weeks after (p=0.003)
NVAMD Treatment Interval post-Endophthalmitis

• This difference reflected an increase in the treatment interval after the first 3 injections pre- and post-endophthalmitis.

• No difference for last 3 injections prior to endophthalmitis (6.75 ± 0.81 weeks) compared to first 3 injections after reinitiating treatment (7.78 ± 1.05 weeks; p=0.24).
Intravitreal Anti-VEGF Drug

• Intravitreal anti-VEGF drug used immediately before endophthalmitis:
  • Ranibizumab 0.5 mg in 34 cases (45.3%)
  • Afiblercept in 28 cases (37.3%)
  • Bevacizumab in 13 cases (17.3%)

• Intravitreal anti-VEGF drug used immediately after endophthalmitis (n=58):
  • Ranibizumab 0.5 mg in 28 cases (48.3%)
  • Afiblercept in 25 cases (43.1%)
  • Bevacizumab in 3 cases (5.2%)
  • Photodynamic therapy in 2 cases (3.4%)
logMAR Visual Acuity

- just prior to endophthalmitis: 0.585±0.053 (20/77)
- on endophthalmitis presentation: 1.67±0.08 (20/940, p<0.001)
- on post-endophthalmitis-treatment day 1: 1.94±0.064 (CF, p<0.001)
- on post-endophthalmitis-treatment week 1: 1.61±0.081 (20/820, p=0.31)
- final, after re-initiating anti-VEGF: 1.02±0.11 (20/210, p<0.001)
Multivariate Analysis

- logMAR VA on the visit prior to endophthalmitis was significantly associated with the need to reinitiate treatment (p=0.034)

- Treatment interval pre-endophthalmitis was significantly associated with the need to retreat NVAMD after endophthalmitis (p=0.006)

- Post-endophthalmitis treatment interval was significantly associated with the anti-VEGF drug chosen
  - 11.0±1.94 weeks for aflibercept
  - 11.4±3.83 weeks for ranibizumab 0.5 mg
  - 8.97±1.83 weeks for bevacizumab (p<0.001).
Multivariate Analysis

- Patients with a positive strep. culture had worse final VA (logMAR VA 2.10±0.739; between CF and HM vision) than patients with:
  - a positive staph. culture (p=0.028; logMAR VA 0.817±0.203; ~20/130) or
  - a negative culture (p=0.015; logMAR VA 0.978±0.122; ~20/190)
Analysis of Anatomic Changes

- At the time of reinitiation of treatment for NVAMD:
  - 5.26% increase in choroidal neovascular complexes
  - 7.41% decrease in intraretinal fluid
  - 24.2% decrease in subretinal fluid

- After reinitiating treatment, at the final study visit:
  - 21.1% reduction or involution of CNV complexes
  - 30.3% reduction in SRF
  - 125% increase in subretinal fibrosis
    - 18 cases after endophthalmitis, compared to 8 cases before
    - Half of the new cases of fibrosis (n=5) occurred in patients that were not retreated for NVAMD

- In 33% of cases without reinitiation of anti-VEGF, there was subretinal fibrosis on the final visit, compared to 21.7% of cases in which anti-VEGF was reinitiated (p=0.001).
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Nicole Koulis, M.D.
Viren K. Govindaraju, M.D.
Anne Merrylees Dersch, M.D.
Antonio Capone, Jr., M.D.
Douglas J. Covert, M.D., MPH
Hajir Dadgostar, M.D., Ph.D.
A. Bawa Dass, M.D.
Kimberly A. Drenser, M.D., Ph.D.
Robert E. Engstrom, Jr., M.D.
Lisa J. Faia, M.D.
Bruce R. Garretson, M.D.
Amir H. Guerami, M.D.
Thomas A. Hanscom, M.D.

Tamer H. Mahmoud, M.D., Ph.D.
Alan R. Margherio, M.D.
Kean T. Oh, M.D.
Sandeep Randhawa, M.D.
Paul V. Raphaelian, M.D.
William R. Rhoades, M.D.
Alan J. Ruby, M.D.
Christian J. Sanfilippo, M.D.
Scott R. Sneed, M.D.
Michael T. Trese, M.D.
Jeremy D. Wolfe, M.D., M.S.
George A. Williams, M.D.
Sunita Yedavally, D.O.
Tarek S. Hassan, M.D.