Simple Repositioning of Migrated Dexamethasone Implant without Surgical Intervention

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Introduction

- Intravitreal injection of dexamethasone implant (Ozurdex®)
  - Biodegradable, sustained-release implant containing 0.7 mg dexamethasone
  - Indications: Macular edema due to
    - Retinal vein occlusion, Diabetic retinopathy
    - Non-infectious posterior uveitis
    - Other retinal vascular disease

- Complications
  - Anterior chamber reaction
  - Elevated intraocular pressure
  - Cataract
  - Migration of implant into the anterior chamber
    - Rare but serious complication
    - Cause corneal edema → Permanent visual loss

Complications

Non-surgical repositioning

- "Ocular massage in supine position"
  - The implant was repositioned into the vitreous cavity successfully

Follow up

- Corneal edema and visual acuity improved
- The implant had been located in the vitreous cavity and absorbed without re-migration

Conclusions

- The dexamethasone implant can be migrated into the anterior chamber.

Management

- Simple repositioning by tapping or pressing the eyeball should be introduced before deciding to remove the migrated implant surgically.
- However, it should be closely monitored whether the corneal edema persists and the implant migrates into the anterior chamber again.

Purpose

To report a simple method to manage the dexamethasone implant migrated into the anterior chamber in a patient underwent previous scleral fixation of intraocular lens with vitrectomy

Case (64/M)

- Chief complain
  - OD) Sudden reduction of visual acuity (onset: 1 day ago)

- Past history
  - Operation history
    - 3 years ago, pars plana vitrectomy, scleral fixation of intraocular lens (IOL)
      - (For the persistent macular edema)
      - Intravitreal injections of Bevacizumab (Avastin®), 4 times
      - Posterior subtenon injections of triamcinolone acetonide, 2 times
      - 8 days ago, intravitreal injection of Ozurdex®

- Underlying disease
  - Hypertension: 10 years
  - Diabetes mellitus: 3 years

- Visual acuity
  - OD) Counting finger at 50cm
  - OS) 1.0

- Slit lamp findings
  - OD) Ozurdex® pellet in anterior chamber
  - Diffuse corneal edema

- IOP
  - OD) 14 mmHg by GAT
  - OS) 15

- Fundus examination
  - OD) Blurred view due to corneal edema

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3 weeks
2 months
4 days after repositioning

VA OD) 0.2
VA OD) 0.4