THE USE OF INTRAVITREAL STEROID IMPLANT(OZURDEX) FOR TREATMENT OF REFRACTORY CYSTOID MACULAR EDEMA SECONDARY TO RETINITIS PIGMENTOSA

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INTRODUCTION
Retinitis pigmentosa is a clinically & genetically diverse group of diffuse retinal dystrophies that initially affecting rod with subsequent degeneration of cones. Maculopathy is one of the complications of RP that affecting vision and usually takes different types 1.(Atrophic),2.(Cystoid Macular Edema) 3.(Macular retraction).
The prevalence of CME was 52% in AD RP, 39 % in AR RP and 35% in XL.

METHODS
We retrospectively review a 24y old male patient that presented with bilateral refractory cystoid macular edema secondary to RP which is not responding to topical carbonic anhydrase inhibitor and multiple anti VEGF injections of Lucentis in both eyes, the patient underwent bilateral 0.7 mg intravitreal dexamethason(OZURDEX) implant of 1 week apart, the spectral domain OCT was performed before and one month after OZURDEX injection and to assess the efficacy of intravitreal steroid implants in treatment of refractory CMO in RP.

RESULTS
The Spectral Domain OCT after 1 month of injection showed a significant anatomical and functional improvements. CMT improved from 314 um to 233 um in the right eye and from 590 um to 207 um in the left eye. The BCVA improved from 6/18 to 6/9 in the right eye and from 6/60 to 6/60 in the left eye.

CONCLUSION
It seems that the refractory CMO in RP is mostly inflammatory driven, for this reason it shows a dramatic response to intravitreal steroids, in our case, the patient has received multiple anti VEGF injections of Lucentis with no improvement, but he responded very well anatomically and functionally to intravitreal steroid implant of OZURDEX the results in our case was matching other small case series results. EX: In retrospective study of Ozdemir et al reported the efficacy of intravitreal steroid implant for bilateral retinitis pigmentosa in a group of five eye of five patients. Further preferably randomized trials may establish the place of intravitreal dexamethason in the management of refractory CMO related to RP.

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REFERENCES