Complications Following Brachytherapy for Choroidal Melanoma

Abstract Text:

67 year old male presents with double vision and blurred vision 1 month following brachytherapy for choroidal melanoma.

I. Case History

- Demographics: 67 y/o Caucasian Male
- CC: blurred vision & binocular double vision
- POH: dry eye syndrome OU, cataracts OU, choroidal melanoma s/p I-125 OS
- PMH: hypothyroidism, bipolar disorder, hypogonadism, osteoarthritis, hypercholesterolemia, hypertension
- Meds: aripiprazole, atorvastatin, cyclobenzaprine, diclofenac, hydroxyzine, lamotrigine, levothyroxine, sertraline, testosterone

II. Pertinent findings

- Clinical: BCVA 20/25 OD, 20/20 OS; pupils no APD; Full EOMs OU; FTFC OD, OS; slit lamp: MGD, trace NS OU. IOP 13/13; DFE: 0.2 OD/OS, 4DD x 5.5DD choroidal melanoma temporal to macula OS (decreased size s/p treatment); otherwise unremarkable OU
- Imaging: OCT, fundus photos, Ultrasonography
- Systemic Lab w/u: negative

III. Differential diagnosis

- Primary: choroidal melanoma
- Others: choroidal nevus, CHRPE, exudative chorioretinopathy, idiopathic hemorrhagic detachment of the retina or RPE

IV. Diagnosis and discussion

- Approximately 2500 people develop uveal melanoma annually
- Most common primary intraocular cancer in adults.
- Incidence increases with age
- Predilection for males & Caucasians

V. Treatment, management

- Treatment options: enucleation or brachytherapy
  - Age at baseline and maximum basal diameter are only predictors of mortality
Now, treatment focuses on visual preservation. 
Patient underwent I-125 brachytherapy.
- Known complications: loss of vision, cataract formation, iridocyclitis, and neovascular glaucoma.
- VA can decrease over time and result in poor vision:
  - On average, two line loss of acuity each year for the first three years following I-125.
Optometrist role: educate on potential vision loss prior to Tx, monitor for recurrence & vision loss following Tx, provide visual aids as needed.
Bibliography: available upon request.

VI. Conclusion

After brachytherapy, it is important to monitor for recurrence and treat visual symptoms.