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MACULAR HOLE SURGERY IN RETINITIS PIGMETOSA

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Introduction:

Retinitis pigmentosa (RP) is a rare inherited disease with prevalence of 1 in 4000.

Rods are the cells mostly affected in RP so night blindness and loss of peripheral vision are the two most common signs of the disease.

Central vision over time remains relatively stable unless other macular abnormalities occur.

According to Fragiotta and al vitreo-macular interface abnormalities in RP patients are most frequent than in regular population.

Full thickness macular hole FTMH however is considered to be rare among other types of vitreo-macular pathologies with frequency reported between 0,5-4,5 %.

Materials and methods:

Case report of two patients with RP operated due to FTMH.

There are a few aspects of vitrectomy performed due to FTMH in RP.

Retina is very thin and fragile. There is a problem with obtaining ILM flap due to structural changes in ILM in RP.

Malfunctioning of RPE might slower the process of FTMH closure.

All these aspects should be taken under the consideration before planning the surgery.

Results:

In both patients vitrectomy was performed with success. Macular hole was closed and there was improvement in visual acuity.

Conclusions:

In conclusion, vitrectomy in patients with retinitis pigmentosa can be performed in a standard manner. However, different reactions of tissues are possible. Therefore, it is necessary to act cautiously with patients suffering from this disease.

The result is stable in terms of both functions and anatomy. In case of patients with surgical changes to the macula, vitrectomy remains to be the only way to maintain vision.

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