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A comparative study of topical versus intrastromal injection plus topical voriconazole for treatment of deep or resistant fungal keratitis

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Abstract

Purpose: To compare the safety and efficacy of topical versus intrastromal injection plus topical voriconazole for treatment of deep and/or resistant fungal keratitis.

Methods: A prospective, randomized study performed on eyes with deep and/or resistant fungal keratitis during the period from April 2011 to March 2012. Only those patients with proven clinical and laboratory evidence of fungal keratitis (with smears and/or cultures) were included in the study. The eyes were ***randomly*** distributed into two groups: **group (A)** included eyes treated with intrastromal injection (s) of voriconazole (50µg/0.1 ml) plus voriconazole eye drops 1% and **group (B)** included eyes treated with topical voriconazole eye drops 1%. The results were analyzed and compared as regards the safety and efficacy of each method of treatment.

Results: Each group included 20 eyes with deep and/or resistant fungal keratitis. The mean duration of follow up was a 12.75±2.31 week in group A and was 14.52±3.22 week in group B ($P > 0.05$). Complete healing and resolution of fungal keratitis was statistically significanty higher ($P < 0.05$) in group A (85 %) than in group B (55%). Laboratory studies showed increased prevalence of filamentous fungi (70 % in group A and 65 % in group B) more than yeasts (30 % in group A and 35 % in group B), and the difference between both groups was not statistically significant ($P > 0.05$).

Biography

Ayman A. Alkawas has completed his MBBCH at the age of 23 years old from Zagazig University, Egypt. He completed his Master Degree of Ophthalmology from the same university in 1994. He completed his retina fellowship in 1998 in Michigan, USA with Associated Retinal Consultants at Beaumont hospital and Oakland University. He completed his Doctorate Degree of Ophthalmology in 1999 in Zagazig University. He is currently a Professor of Ophthalmology at Zagazig University, Egypt. He published more than 23 papers in reputed local and international journals and acted a reviewer for 5 international journals. He is an Editorial Board Member of one of the reputed journals.