Abstract

The purpose of the study was to assess the results of photodynamic therapy (PDT) for subretinal neovascular membranes (SNM) in age-related macular degeneration (ARMD), by using the Russian drug Photosens. According to the treatment performed, all the patients were divided into 2 groups: 1) 18 patients with the neovascular form of ARMD who received a course of PDT; 2) 14 patients with the same form who had drug therapy. Photosens (aluminum phthalocyanine) was intravenously injected in a dose of 0.05 mg/kg. The irradiation conditions were as follows: a session was carried out, using a laser at a wavelength of 675 nm, in an exposure light dose of 120 J/cm². The number of sessions ranged from 3 to 5 a week, depending on the clinical picture of SNM. The total light dose was not greater than 500 J/cm². PDT showed a higher efficiency, as compared to drug therapy. PDT using Photosens increases and stabilizes visual acuity in 50% of cases, improves retinal functional activity (an increase in the mean value of a b-wave amplitude), and causes positive changes in the morphometric values of the mean neuroepithelial thickness above SNM and in the foveola.

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