

## UPDATE ON AMD 2019

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## Introduction

- Exciting time to be interested in AMD
- Many new treatments now available for AMD
  - Years ago, we had nothing at all to offer patients with AMD
- Current Treatments
- Potential Treatments
- New Diagnostic Equipment

## Dry AMD

- Currently mainstay treatment for Dry AMD revolves around prevention of progression through vitamins, nutrition and lifestyle changes
  - Rheophoresis, Laser, Anecortave Acetate did not prove effective
- Early detection of conversion from dry to wet may result in better treatment for patients

## AREDS 2

- AREDS 2: Enrollment ended June 2008 with ~4200 patients followed for six years
  - Effect of lutein, zeaxanthin and omega 3 on AMD
  - Effect of eliminating beta carotene on AMD
  - Effect of reducing zinc on AMD
  - Effect of supplements on cataracts
  - Validate the AMD scale from original AREDS
- Results released May 5, 2013

JAMA The JAMA Network

**ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTION**

**CLINICAL PRACTICE**

**Lutein + Zeaxanthin and Omega-3 Fatty Acids for Age-Related Macular Degeneration: The Age-Related Eye Disease Study 2 (AREDS2) Randomized Clinical Trial**

**Abstract**

**Importance** Our understanding of the Age-Related Eye Disease Study 2 (AREDS2) findings is limited by the lack of a clear understanding of the underlying mechanisms of the observed effects. This study was designed to evaluate the effects of lutein, zeaxanthin, and omega-3 fatty acids on the progression of age-related macular degeneration (AMD) in patients with early AMD.

**Objective** To determine whether adding lutein, zeaxanthin, and omega-3 fatty acids to the AREDS2 formulation would reduce the risk of progression to late AMD.

**Design, Setting, and Participants** The Age-Related Eye Disease Study 2 (AREDS2) was a randomized clinical trial conducted between 2005 and 2008 at 12 clinical sites. The study included 4200 participants with early AMD.

**Results** Participants who received the lutein, zeaxanthin, and omega-3 fatty acid supplement had a significantly lower risk of progression to late AMD compared with those who received the AREDS2 formulation without these supplements.

**Conclusions and Relevance** Addition of lutein, zeaxanthin, and omega-3 fatty acids to the AREDS2 formulation significantly reduced the risk of progression to late AMD in patients with early AMD.

**Available at**  
www.jama.com

## AREDS 2 Formulation

- Vitamin C-500 mg
- Vitamin E-400 iu
- Lutein 10 mg/Zeaxanthin 2 mg
- Zinc 80 mg
- Copper 2 mg
- NO beta Carotene
- NO Omega-3 fatty acids (DHA/EPA)

## Wet AMD

- Various agents currently being used as intravitreal injection
  - Macugen® (pegatanib sodium) Dec 2004
  - Lucentis® (ranibizumab) June 2006
  - Avastin® (bevacizumab) Not FDA approved
  - Eylea® (afibicert ) Nov 2011

## Lucentis (ranibizumab)

- Antibody fragment which blocks VEGF activity
  - Less specific than Macugen, so perhaps more efficacious
- Delivered by intravitreal injection
- Developed by Genentech
- FDA Approved June 30, 2006

## Lucentis

- ANCHOR Study (classic CNVM)
  - 2 Year Phase 3 randomized study
    - 94% of pts treated with 0.3 mg had stable or improved vision vs 64% with Visudyne
    - 36% had gain of 15 letters or more
    - Avg acuity gain was 11.3 letters vs 9.5 letters lost with Visudyne at one year
    - 31% had VA of 20/40 or better vs only 3% with Visudyne
- MARINA Study (minimally classic/occult)
  - 95% of treated pts vs 62% of controls had less than 15 letter loss
  - 25% treated vs 4.6% of controls had 3 line gain
  - At 2 yrs, 6.6 letter gain with tx vs 14.9 letters lost without

## Lucentis

- Additional studies, PRONTO and PIER, looking at alternative dosing schedules
  - PRONTO: one injection/mos x 3. Then inject based on clinical or OCT findings
  - PIER: one injection /mos x 3. Then inject q 6 months for 2 years
- Results were very similar to original studies, especially with PRONTO

## Avastin (bevacizumab)

- Drug currently FDA approved for the treatment of metastatic colorectal cancer and certain lung cancers (Genentech)
  - Parent drug of Lucentis. Originally thought to be too large to penetrate retina
- Currently widely used as treatment for CNVM due to its anti-VEGF properties

## Avastin

- First report of intravitreal injection in May 2005
- First case reports published in July 2005
- Within 6 months, global acceptance and widespread clinical use
  - despite lack of large scale studies regarding efficacy, safety and dosing

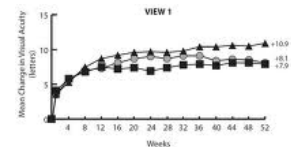
## Avastin

- Major advantage is COST
  - \$15-\$50 per 0.3 ml injection
    - 1/40 cost of Lucentis
  - Approx \$1k for Macugen/\$2.5K for Lucentis
- Issue is there are no large prospective study to judge its efficacy and safety
  - Systemic concern is thrombolytic events
    - Amount used in vitreous is 300-400 fold lower than that administered IV
- Some controversy remains but continues to be used widely

## Eylea (afibicert)

### View 1

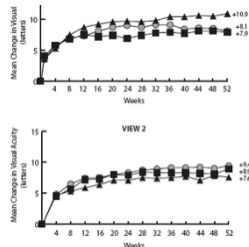
- 95% of pts receiving 2 mg q 2 mos achieved maintenance of vision vs. 94% with Lucentis monthly
- 7.9 letter mean improvement of vision (vs. 8.1 with Lucentis monthly)



## Eylea

### View 2

- 95% of pts receiving 2 mg q 2 mos achieved maintenance of vision vs. 94% with Lucentis monthly
- 8.9 letter mean improvement of vision (vs. 9.4 with Lucentis monthly)



## Eylea

- Cost: Eylea ≈\$1850/injection, with injection every 2 months
  - Therefore ½ of Lucentis monthly
- Second year study will evaluate use PRN

## Avastin vs. Lucentis

What is the Treatment of Choice?

- Complications of Age-Related Macular Degeneration Treatment Trial (CATT)
  - NEI/NIH sponsored trial
  - First year results released May 1, 2011 NEJM
- 1208 patients randomized
  - Lucentis with 4 week dosing
  - Avastin with 4 week dosing
  - Lucentis with variable dosing (PRN)
  - Avastin with variable dosing (PRN)

## CATT: 1 yr results

- Equivalent effects on visual acuity with same administration
  - Lucentis monthly 8.5 letters gained
  - Avastin monthly 8.0 letters gained
  - Lucentis PRN 6.8 letters gained
  - Avastin PRN 5.9 letters gained

## CATT: 1 yr summary

- Vision with Lucentis vs. Avastin relatively equal over course of first year
  - Some evidence of more effect with Lucentis on anatomical structure, ie more decrease in RT on OCT, but did NOT correlate with improved visual function
  - Some hint that less systemic events with Lucentis
  - HUGE cost differential
- Avastin wins most of the time, with select cases benefiting from Lucentis

## CATT: 1 yr results

- Average cost for first year treatment:
  - \$23,400 for Lucentis monthly
  - \$13,800 for Lucentis PRN
  - \$595 for Avastin monthly
  - \$385 for Avastin PRN

## CATT 2 yr Results

- At end of 2 years, both had similar effects on vision when the dosing regimen was the same
  - Mean gain in acuity, proportion gaining or losing 3 lines, % better than 20/40 all similar
- Mean gain slightly better for monthly vs. as needed, 2.4 letters
- Rates of death and thrombotic events similar
- Pts with serious systemic adverse effects higher with Avastin (39.9% vs. 31.7%)

## Other studies

- Multiple other comparative studies have confirmed no clinically significant differences between Avastin and Lucentis
  - CATT (US)
  - IVAN (Great Britain)
  - MANTA (Austria)
  - GEFAL (France)
  - BRAMD (Netherlands)
  - LUCAS (Norway)

## Seven-Up study

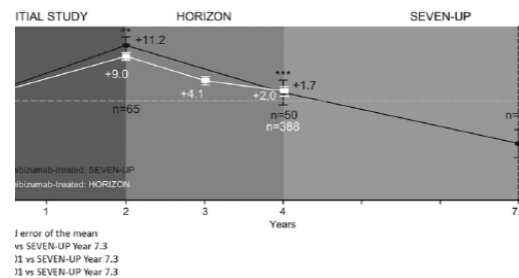
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### 3-Year Outcomes in Ranibizumab-Treated Patients in ANCHOR, MARINA, and RIZON

Multicenter Cohort Study (SEVEN-UP)

Chakrabarti, MD, MPH,<sup>1</sup> Robert B. Bhisitkul, MD, PhD,<sup>1</sup> David S. Boyer, MD,<sup>2</sup> Srinivas R. Sadda, MD, PhD,<sup>4</sup> for the SEVEN-UP Study Group\*

## Seven-Up Study



## CATT 5 yr Results

- ARVO 2016: 647 patients 328 Lucentis, 319 Avastin
- 5.5 years follow up on average
  - 25 total Visits or  $\approx$ 4.55 /year
- 50% had VA > 20/40
- 20 % <20/200
- 10% 20/20
  - Loss of 3 letters from baseline
  - Loss of 11 letters from 2 year study endpoint
- Before VEGF: only 10% > 20/40

## Potential Therapies

- Currently, there are  $\approx$  1404 studies evaluating AMD, both Wet and Dry
  - [www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov) (March 2018)
    - More than:
      - glaucoma
      - dry eye
      - diabetic eye disease
- Exciting time to be involved, with many possible therapies that may prove useful for our AMD patients

## FoVista (pegpleranib)

- Anti-PDGF agent
- Theory is that when used in conjunction with anti-VEGF agents, will have a better effect due to synergistic effect
- Ophthotech
  - Phase 1/ 2b studies promising

## FoVista

- Initial phase 1 trial to show safety
  - 59 % had improvement of three lines or more
- Phase 2b study: 449 patients
  - Fovista/Lucentis combination gained 10.6 letters at 24 weeks, vs. 6.5 with Lucentis alone
    - 62% additional benefit
    - First study to show results BETTER THAN Lucentis
- Phase 3: Fovista 1.5 mg with anti-VEGF vs anti-VEGF monotherapy underway

## FoVista: Update

- Dec 2016, Phase 3: 1248 pts with wet AMD
  - Fovista plus Lucentis: mean gain of 10.24 letters at 1 year
  - Lucentis only: mean gain of 10.01
  - Difference of 0.23 letters
  - 24.2% gained >20 letters with combo
  - 22.1% gained >20 letters with Lucentis alone
  - 12.1% lost 5 letters or more with combo
  - 11.2% lost 5 letters with Lucentis alone
  - 13.5% VA of 20/25 or better with combo
  - 13.9% VA of 20/25 or better with Lucentis

STOCK DECREASED 85% OVERNIGHT!!

## Rinucumab

- Another PDGF from Regeneron
- CAPELLA study
  - Eylea plus rinucumab vs. Eylea alone for 12 weeks
  - Combo gained 5.8 letters, Eylea 7.5 letters
  - Failed to meet endpoint
  - Will continue study for one additional year

## Lampalizumab

- Intravitreal Injection for GA (Roche)
- MAHALO Study
  - 20% reduction in GA lesion progression over 18 mos who monthly injections
  - Subset of pts with CFI injection had 44% reduction
- Phase III: 986 patients currently underway
- CHROMA, SPECTRI STUDIES
  - First results released September
  - Did not show a positive effect vs. no treatment on lesion size

## Brolucizumab (RTH258)

- Previously ESBA 1008
- Single chain antibody fragment (scFv)
- Smaller than current agents, yet potentially longer duration
- Phase II study: 194 patients
  - ESBA 1008 0.5, 3, 4.5, or 6 mg vs. 0.5 mg Lucentis
  - At 1 mos, mean VA improvement
    - 6 mg ESBA 1008: 10.4 letters
    - 0.5 mg Lucentis: 6.5 letters

## Brolucizumab (RTH258)

- HARRIER and HAWK (phase 3 studies)
  - 6 or 3 mg of RTH258 vs. 2 mg Eylea in ≈1800 patients
  - Met primary endpoint at 48 weeks of non-inferiority in mean BCVA vs. Eylea
  - ≈55% remained on q 12 weeks injection schedule
  - Overall ocular and non-ocular adverse events were comparable to Eylea
  - “These results demonstrate RTH258 has potential to reduce injection burden while providing excellent visual outcomes”

## Replenish®

- Replenish® drug delivery pump by Alcon/Novartis
- Fully programmable, refillable pump
- Rechargeable to support chronic use
- Applicable to back of eye disorders
- May prove alternative to injections
- Looking at with ESBA 1008/RTH 258 Proof of concept

## LADDER Study

- Genentech looking at a Rigid Port Delivery System (RPDS)
- Placed through a scleral incision
- Would release a constant influx of meds (Lucentis) rather than serial anti-VEGF injections
- Refillable every 4-6 mos
- Currently in Stage II

## PAN-9080

- Pan Optica Biotech
- Topical anti-VEGF agent
- Phase 1/2 study
  - Positive response in 45-50% of 20 pts at 8 weeks
    - Decreased Vascular leakage
    - Change in lesion morphology
    - Change in Acuity
    - AE: SPK
- Also looking at role in DR and VO
- Data expected early 2019

## Sunutib (G-102)

- Gray Burg Vision
- Encapsulated injectable sustained release formulation of SUTENT (Pfizer)
  - FDA approved 2006 for oral tx of advanced renal cell carcinoma, GI stromal tumors, and pancreatic non- endocrine tumors
- Has Anti-VEGF, Anti PDGF, stem cell growth factors and other modes of action
- Injected once per 6 mos
  - G-103: Yearly injection
- Animal studies currently, with human studies planned

## OPT-302

- OPTHTEA: Australian Biotech company
- Blocks VEGF-C/D
- Phase 2b studies in US and Europe (351 pts)
  - Lucentis plus two doses of OPT-302 for WET AMD
    - Primary Endpoint: change in acuity at 24 weeks
    - Secondary Endpoints
      - Decreased retinal thickness
      - % pts with > 15 letter gain in acuity
      - Ocular and non-ocular adverse events

## ICON-1

- Iconic Therapeutics
- Tissue factor TF inhibitor for WET AMD
  - Interferes with TFs ability to drive angiogenesis and inflammation
- EMERGE STUDY: 88 pts
  - Well tolerated
  - In conjunction with anti-VEGF
    - Reduced CNVM lesion size
    - Removed fluid from retina
- Starting Phase 2 studies

## High Dose Atorvastatin

- 26 pts with AMD and large, multiple soft drusen
- High dose 80 mg atorvastatin (generic lipitor)
  - Typically 10-20 mg/day
- At 12 mos, 23 completed trail
  - Regression of drusen and acuity gain of 3.3 letters in 10/23
  - None progressed to wet AMD

Regression of Some High-risk Features of Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD) in Patients Receiving Intensive Statin Treatment Demetrios G. Vavvas, Anthony B. Sarks, Jon D. Kaprielian, Jeremy W. Guelffer, Emmanuel Ganotaki, John I. Loewenstein, Lucy H. Young, Evangelos S. Gragoudas, Dean Elliott, Isma K. Kim, Miltiadis K. Tolmieri, Joaquin Miller

## Stem Cells

Investigational Product	Cell Type	Sponsor	Administration Route	Number of Cells	Patient Population	Clinical Trials	Status	Length	# Subjects
MA09-IRPE	hESC-derived RPE	Ocata Therapeutics	Subretinal transplantation	50K - 200K	Dry AMD with GA	Phase III, NCT01344993	Ongoing, Not recr.	12 months	16
MA09-IRPE	hESC-derived RPE	Ocata Therapeutics	Subretinal transplantation	50K - 200K	Stargardt's disease	Phase III, NCT01345006	Ongoing, Not recr.	12 months	16
MA09-IRPE	hESC-derived RPE	UCLA	Subretinal transplantation	Unknown	Myopic macular degeneration	Phase III, NCT01221159	Not yet recruiting	12 months	Unknown
hUCNS-SC	Adult neural SC	StemCells Inc.	Subretinal transplantation	200K - 1M	Dry AMD with GA	Phase III, NCT01631527	Closed	12 months	15
CNT0 2476	UCSC	Janssen R&D	Subretinal transplantation	60K - 300K	Dry AMD with GA	Phase I, II, NCT01228626	Closed	12 months	24
PF-05206388	hESC-derived RPE	Pfizer	Subretinal transplantation	17 mm <sup>2</sup> sheet	Wet AMD	Phase I, NCT01691261	Not yet recruiting	12 months	
	BM-derived SC	Univ. San Paulo	Intravitreal injection	1M	Dry AMD, wet AMD and Stargardt's	Phase III, NCT01518127	Enrolling	12 months	10

## Genetic Treatment

- If defective gene responsible for abnormal VEGF expression can be localized, perhaps a replacement, or fixer gene, can be injected into the eye ONE TIME!
  - Genzyme
    - AAV2.SFLT01
  - Avalanche Biotechnologies
    - AVA-101
  - Oxford BioMedica
    - RetinoStat
  - For Sight Labs
  - NeuroTech

## Brimonidine®

- Glaucoma medication by Allergan
- Long suspected to have neuro-protective properties
  - New studies point at retinal neuroprotection in animals
- BEACON STUDY
  - Evaluating an intravitreal insert for GA
  - 2016 AAO subspecialty day
    - 132ug: 19% reduced rate of regression
    - 265ug: 28%

## APL-2

- Apellis Pharmaceuticals
- Intravitreal Complement factor C inhibitor for GA
- FILLY Trial: Phase 2 showed decreased rate of lesion progression over 12 mos in monthly and every other month administration
  - Monthly 26%
  - Ever other: 20%
- Phase 3 to start soon

## MacuLogix's AdaptDx

- Dark adaptation is a sensitive marker for early AMD
- The AdaptDx measures dark adaptation
- A rapid test of dark adaptation using the AdaptDx has been found to have a 90% sensitivity for detecting dark adaptation impairment associated with AMD
- Decreased dark adaptation may precede clinical findings of AMD
- Dark adaptation is more sensitive than other tests such as Snellen acuity, contrast sensitivity, or visual fields which are about 25% sensitive.

## AdaptDx Study at VA

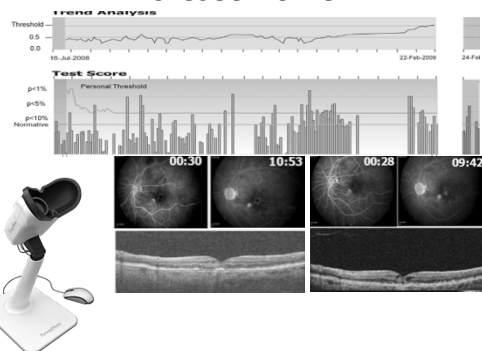
- Tested whether the AdaptDx could detect AMD in a typical VA clinical setting
- Rapid test run on 19 AMD patients (AREDS stage: 1 to 3)
- 18 of 19 patients failed to dark adapt before the maximum test time of 6.5 minutes. The diagnostic test sensitivity was 94.7%
- The AdaptDx exhibited similar sensitivity in a working VA clinic compared with a multi-site clinical study
- Next step is to use the AdaptDx to find patients with undiagnosed AMD or subclinical AMD

## AdaptDx Advantages

- No preadaptation required
- Protocols as rapid as 5 minutes
- Low patient burden
- Easy to operate
- CPT 92284 (\$64 avg.)
- FDA 510K cleared (K100954)



## Foresee Home





### AREDS 2 home study

- 1520 pt with at least one large drusen and VA 20/60 better
  - 763 with home monitoring, 51 CNVM detected
  - 757 standard monitoring, 31 CNVM detected
    - 4 letters lost with device vs. 9 without
    - 94% had better than 20/40 with device vs. 87% without

### My Vision Track (mVT®)

- An app to detect early vision problems in patients with AMD and DM, leading to sooner assessments and better vision retention
- FDA cleared
- 98% effective rate in detecting changes



### CONCLUSION

- Exciting time to be interested in AMD
- New treatments on horizon that may be beneficial to our patients
- New advances in diagnosis and detection are paramount
  - On study determined 25% of pts deemed normal on dilated retinal exam by eye care physician had characteristics of AMD on photographic review