Author’s response to reviews

Title: Successful resolution of Coats disease by photodynamic therapy: A case report

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Author’s response to reviews:

Katarzyna Nowomiejska, M.D., Ph.D.
Editor
BMC Ophthalmology

Dear Dr. Nowomiejska,

Please find enclosed our manuscript entitled “Successful resolution of Coats disease by photodynamic therapy: A case report” (BOPH-D-18-00600), which we would like to resubmit to BMC Ophthalmology for publication.
This manuscript was originally submitted on August 16th, 2018 but is pending with revisions. We have therefore revised the manuscript according to the comments received. We would be grateful if this manuscript could now be accepted for publication in BMC Ophthalmology.

None of the material contained in this manuscript has been published or is under consideration elsewhere.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our manuscript.

Yours truly,
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We wish to express our appreciation for the insightful comments of the reviewers, which have helped us to significantly improve this paper.

(Reviewer 1):

1) Korean J Ophthalmol 2010;24:374-376 should be cited, in which a treatment with PDT and intravitreal Bevaciyumab injection has been presented in a patient with Coats disease. The sentence on Page 4 lines 18-20 should be reformulated accordingly.
Thank you very much for this comment. According to this comment, we have cited Korean J Ophthalmol. 2010;24:374-376 and changed the manuscript as follows:

Discussion and Conclusion, Page 4, Lines 17–21 has been changed from:

In this study, we report a case of Coats disease with severe retinal exudative change that was effectively treated with PDT, resulting in improved visual acuity. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first report to describe PDT as an effective treatment for Coats disease with retinal vascular abnormality near the posterior pole.

To:

In this study, we report a case of Coats disease in a 15-year-old patient who showed a severe retinal exudative change that was treated with PDT, resulting in improved visual acuity. Although one previous study reported that PDT was effective for treating Coats disease in a 68-year-old patient [7], to the best of our knowledge, this report is the first to describe the successful use of PDT to treat a teenager with Coats disease who presented with retinal vascular abnormality near the posterior pole.

Additionally, we added the following reference:


2) Is PDT for this disease "off label" in Japan? How about adding this point together with disorders for which PDT has been approved in your country because the situations regarding PDT would be different among countries?

Yes, PDT is off label for Coat’s disease in Japan. According to this comment, we have changed the manuscript as follows:

Discussion and Conclusion, Page 5, Lines 7–12 has been changed from:

Although this report describes just one case, our results indicate that PDT might be an effective and safe treatment for Coats disease, especially for patients with abnormal retinal vessels close to the posterior pole of the eye.

To:
Our results indicate that PDT might be an effective and safe treatment for Coats disease, especially for patients with abnormal retinal vessels close to the posterior pole of the eye. However, this report describes just one case of PDT using verteporfin, which, in Japan, has been approved for age-related macular degeneration but not for Coats disease.

3) Please add the stage of Coats disease in which the patient at the initial visit was.

Thank you very much for this comment. According to this comment, we have changed the manuscript as follows:

Case presentation, Page 3, Lines 27–28 has been changed from:

Based on these findings, we diagnosed the case as Coats disease.

To:

Based on these findings, we diagnosed the case as Stage 3A Coats disease.

4) Page 2 line 11: "abnormal lower vision" should be corrected.

We apologize for the incorrect language. According to this comment, we have changed the manuscript as follows:

Abstract, Page 2, Lines 11–12 has been changed from:

A 15-year-old Japanese boy presented to hospital with a chief complaint of abnormal lower vision of

the right eye.

To:

A 15-year-old Japanese boy presented to hospital with a chief complaint of decreased vision in his right eye.
A 15-year-old Japanese boy with no medical history presented to our hospital with a chief complaint of abnormal lower vision in the right eye for the past 6 months.

To:

A 15-year-old Japanese boy with no medical history presented to our hospital with a chief complaint of decreased vision in his right eye for the past 6 months.

5) Page 4 lines 9-10: This sentence is currently confusing and should be optimized for a better readability.

We apologize for the confusing language. According to this comment, we have changed the relevant sentence as follows:

Case presentation, Page 4, Lines 9–10 has been changed from:

At one month after PDT, the exudative changes were noted before PDT (Fig. 2a and d), but had regressed gradually by one month after treatment (Fig. 2b and e).

To:

Exudative retinal detachment was noted before PDT (Fig. 2a and d). At one month after treatment, the exudative changes had partially regressed (Fig. 2b and e).

(Reviewer 2):

This case presentation is interesting and useful. Discussion and conclusion are significant and correct.

Thank you very much for this comment.

(Reviewer 3):

The topic of the study presents a current relevance in clinical practice. The design of the study is appropriate with respect to the research question, and the methodology is correct to obtain meaningful results in relation to the case. The results obtained are reliable and can also be applied to similar cases.

Thank you very much for this comment. According to this suggestion, we have cited Senses Sci. 2014;1:113–8, and have changed the manuscript as follows:

Case presentation, Page 4, Lines 3–4 has been changed from:

PDT was performed according to the standard protocol treatment regimen [4,5].

To:

PDT was performed according to the standard protocol treatment regimen [4-6].

Additionally, we have added the following reference: