学位論文の要旨

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主論文の題名

Suspension of Anti-VEGF Treatment Does Not Affect Expansion of RPE Atrophy in Neovascular Age-Related Macular Degeneration

主論文の要旨

Purpose: To determine whether atrophy of the retinal pigment epithelium (RPE) in eyes with neovascular age-related macular degeneration (nAMD), which meets the criteria for the suspension of anti-vascular endothelial growth factor (anti-VEGF) treatment, is associated with anti-VEGF treatments.

Methods: Twelve eyes of 12 patients with nAMD who began anti-VEGF treatment and were followed for 1 year after meeting the criteria for the suspension of anti-VEGF were studied. Six eyes of six patients were placed in the continuation group, and six eyes of six patients were placed in the suspension group. The RPE atrophic area at the time of the last anti-VEGF treatment was set as the baseline size and that at 12 months after the baseline (Month 12) was taken as the final size. A comparison of the expansion rate of RPE atrophy between the two groups was made by the square-root transformed differences.

Results: The expansion rate of atrophy was 0.55 (0.43, 0.72) mm/year in the continuation group and 0.33 (0.15, 0.41) mm/year in the suspension group. This difference was not significant. (p = 0.29).

Conclusions: Suspension of anti-VEGF treatments in eyes with nAMD does not alter the expansion rate of RPE atrophy.