SILICON OIL DROPLETS AFTER INTRAVITREAL AFLIBERCEPT INJECTION

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**Purpose:** To describe cases of silicon oil droplets in vitreous chamber following intravitreal injection of an anti-VEGF agent.

**Methods:** Case series. Patients with intraocular silicon oil droplets after intravitreal anti-VEGF injections performed in the last 3 years in our hospital. Informed consent was obtained from the patients.

**Results:** A total of 4 patients presented with silicone oil droplets after intravitreal injection of Aflibercept, three male and one woman, aged 33, 51, 80 and 89 years old. Two were treated for central retinal vein occlusion and two for age-related macular degeneration. One of them was pseudophakic. The anti-VEGF agent was injected with a 31-gauged needle insulin syringe. In the four cases observation of round, small and clear spheres in the vitreous chamber was incidental as all were asymptomatic. Retinographies were taken and no variation of the findings in the follow-up was observed. Mean number of intravitreal injections was 8.25 (3 to 14). No increased IOP or signs of intraocular inflammation were found. No anterior chamber silicon oil droplets were noticed.

**Conclusions:** Silicon oil droplets are an infrequent complication of intravitreal injections. Although uncommon, it should be recognized in the consent form that patients sign. It seems to be related with siliconized syringes and not with the drug injected. Many times, they are asymptomatic and if symptoms are present, they usually are transient. Use of silicone-free syringes, placing a luer cone and primming before injecting the product would help to reduce silicone oil droplets injected.

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