STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS INFECTIOUS SCLERITIS WITH UNKNOWN CAUSE: A CASE REPORT

Chih-Chien Hsu¹, MD, Pei-Yu Lin¹,², MD,
Yu-Mei Chang¹,², MD, Shui-Mei Lee¹,², MD

Purpose: To describe a case of infectious scleritis with a huge abscess caused by *Staphylococcus aureus*.

Methods: Single interventional case report.

Results: A 50-year-old man was referred for scleritis in the left eye. He had symptoms of redness in the left eye for 2 weeks and had received topical and systemic prednisolone with no success. A huge scleral abscess was noted just above the superior limbus at the 12 o’clock position. He denied any history of ocular surgery and recalled being hit in the left eye by a butterfly 2 days before the development of red eye. Incision and drainage of the abscess were performed. The culture of the pus grew *Staphylococcus aureus*. After treatment with a combination of intravenous, topical, and subconjunctival injection of antibiotics, the abscess was absorbed with a sequela of thin sclera.

Conclusion: Infectious scleritis occurring in patients without ocular surgery is rare. Intensive corticosteroid treatment may aggravate the infection and lead to a huge abscess formation.

Key Words: *Staphylococcus aureus*, infectious scleritis, scleral abscess

INTRODUCTION

Scleritis is an inflammatory process of the sclera and is usually immune-mediated. It can be infectious or noninfectious. Most cases of infectious scleritis are related to ocular surgery, trauma, and infection of adjacent structures. Pterygium surgery is the most frequently associated surgery and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is the most commonly involved microorganism. Infectious scleritis caused by *Staphylococcus aureus* is rare and the previously reported cases were mostly following ocular surgery. We report a rare case with a huge scleral abscess due to *Staphylococcus aureus* infection. He denied any history of ocular surgery or systemic disease, except recently being hit by a butterfly.