

Comment

In this issue we are presenting problems associated with various types of diseases of the eye. Due to the very diverse nature of the topics, I think every reader will find a topic which will be interesting and useful in their everyday medical practice.

The opening paper covers a topic of clinical applications of microperimetry techniques, which is a kind of visual field test that provides the study of retinal sensitivity and the imposition of tests performed on the color fundus image. That technique made the test accurate in identification of defects in the visual field and also allows to monitor disease progression. The authors own clinical experience suggests that microperimetry is extremely useful in the diagnosis and monitoring of central and peripheral retinal lesion of vascular, inflammatory, infectious or degenerative origin.

Following papers are constituted by review articles. The opening paper „Glaucoma and Alzheimer’s Disease – Common Pathomechanisms and Therapeutic Measures”. Glaucoma and Alzheimer’s disease are diseases, which apparently does not have much in common. However, it turns out that they have more of a connection than you would expect. It has been shown, that glaucoma is significantly more common in the patients with Alzheimer’s disease, and, that the mechanisms leading to the cell death in the optic nerve are very similar to the ones observed in neurodegeneration of the brain. This article introduces and systematizes the available knowledge on the subject.

Next review „Vascular risk factors in normal-tension glaucoma and techniques for evaluating ocular blood flow” discusses the mechanisms that (may) affect the regulation of the ocular blood flow and the vascular risk factors that may compromise the systemic and ocular blood flow. According to current knowledge, it is considered that one of the main causes of damage to the optic nerve in glaucoma is the presence of ischemia – hence the attempt to gather and present information on this topic.

The next two papers analyze the impact of drugs, as well as environmental factors on the eyes. The first refers to the effect of tobacco smoke – „Environmental exposure to tobacco smoke and condition of organ of vision”. The second describes in detail the pathogenesis of „civilization diseases of the ageing populations”, such as age-related macular degeneration (AMD).

The article „Age-related secondary glaucoma” systematizes the knowledge of secondary glaucoma. The authors, guided by one of the major risk factors of this disease - age, in an accessible way discuss the various types of secondary glaucoma.

Next two articles, namely: „New methods of treatment of cataract” and „Contemporary ophthalmology – current possibilities and future prospects regarding diagnostics and management of the most common ophthalmic disorders” describes the new methods of treating the most common ophthalmic diseases, such as cataracts, glaucoma, age-related macular degeneration (AMD). It should be noted that many of the described methods are used every day in the Clinic of Ophthalmology, Medical Centre of Postgraduate Education.

The paper which interests both ophthalmologists and endocrinologists is „Thyroid associated orbitopathy”. In a comprehensive way, it presents knowledge about this disease with reference to the latest data, which were published recently in various articles.

The article „Ageing of eye adnexa” discusses the most common senile changes of the eye adnexa. The photographs present in this article which help us to understand the surgical techniques used, as well as memorizing the image of each lesion were taken in the Clinic of Ophthalmology, Medical Centre of Postgraduate Education.

The last article describes three cases of Terson’s syndrome, which were diagnosed and treated in the Department and Clinic of Ophthalmology of the Poznan University of Medical Sciences.

I cordially invite you to read these articles.

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