

ABSTRACT

Steroid induced glaucoma: A case report

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Purpose: To highlight the importance of intra-ocular pressure monitoring to reduce incidence of visual loss in children being treated with topical steroids.

Study design: Case report.

Participant: An 11 year old boy with gradually decreasing vision using topical steroids.

Discussion: Of all the various routes of steroid administration, topical steroid therapy most commonly causes elevation of IOP by decreasing the outflow facility of aqueous. Topical steroids can cause an IOP rise correlated with the duration and frequency of drug administration. The height and duration of the pressure rise depends upon factors like drug potency, penetration, dosage, length of administration as well as individual susceptibility and age. Children younger than 10 years of age show marked elevation of IOP when treated with topical preparations. Despite their popularity as anti-allergic and anti-inflammatory agents, corticosteroids can have tragic consequences and should be used only with judicious monitoring in young children. This case report highlights the problem of glaucoma in a child following unsupervised use of the steroids. Al-Shifa Journal of Ophthalmology 2005; 1(2): 100-102 © Al-Shifa Trust Eye Hospital, Rawalpindi, Pakistan.