Disseminated Streptococcal Endophthalmitis in Two Diabetic Patients

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Two elderly patients with uncontrolled diabetes (hemoglobin A1c: 7.9% and 14%) presented to our department with complaints of sudden-onset visual loss on the right eye. Ophthalmologic investigations revealed bacterial endophthalmitis and a systemic assessment with ⁶⁷gallium-scintigraphy showed multiple infectious foci (Picture). In addition, blood cultures were positive for Streptococcus pneumoniae in both patients. The pathogen was detected in the vitreous fluid in Case 1, but not Case 2. The capsular serotype of S. pneumoniae was identified to be 22 and any one

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of 33F/33A/37. Although the systemic infections were successfully treated with long-term antibiotic therapy, both subjects ultimately lost right visual acuity.

Bacterial endophthalmitis is an ophthalmological emergency, and physicians must be aware of the potential for this sight-threatening infection. *Klebsiella pneumoniae* is the most common pathogen in East Asian countries (1). *S. pneumoniae*, although not isolated as frequently, is known to evoke high inflammatory responses in ocular tissues, resulting in a poor visual prognosis (2). In cases of uncontrolled diabetes, systemic investigations should also be performed to assess suspected disseminated infection.

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