Rare ocular manifestation of Mycoplasma pneumoniae infection

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ABSTRACT

Mycoplasma retinopathy refers to retinal changes associated with infections caused by Mycoplasma species, particularly Mycoplasma pneumoniae. This condition is rare but can occur, especially in the context of systemic Mycoplasma infection. We report a rare ocular presentation of Mycoplasma pneumoniae infection. A 26-year-old woman presented with a 1-week history of generalised, progressive worsening bilateral eye blurring of vision preceded by fever and cough. Her visual acuity was 3/60 and 6/36 for right and left eyes respectively. Anterior segment examination was unremarkable. Dilated fundus examination bilaterally revealed multiple intra-retinal haemorrhages, some of which were white-centred, and cotton wool spots in the posterior pole and peripheral fundus. Optic disc and macula were normal. Autoimmune and infective workups were negative. Serology testing for Mycoplasma pneumoniae was positive and she was diagnosed with atypical pneumonia with ocular manifestations. The patient was treated with oral azithromycin. Reviews in 6 weeks post treatment show improved visual acuity of 6/24 in the right eye and 6/12 in the left eye with resolving both eye intraretinal haemorrhage and cotton wool spots. Patients with mycoplasma retinopathy may present with blurred vision and retinopathy changes. The diagnosis typically involves laboratory tests for mycoplasma infection. Antibiotics treatment to address the infection is important and in certain cases, corticosteroids may be indicated to reduce inflammation.