

# Exploring the role of monthly 5-FU intralesional injection as an option for recurrent pterygium - a case report

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## ABSTRACT

Recurrence is the primary concern following pterygium excision. Managing recurrent pterygium poses significant challenges because it is often more aggressive and difficult to treat, accompanied by more conjunctival inflammation and scarring. We report a case of the use of monthly intralesional 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) in the treatment of recurrent pterygium. A 33-year-old gentleman who works as a field worker, was diagnosed with a right eye double pterygium. He underwent a pterygium excision surgery, but later developed recurrent nasal and temporal pterygium. Surgical intervention with pterygium excision and conjunctival graft, augmented with intraoperative mitomycin C, was performed. Despite the second surgery, impending recurrence was observed during follow-up. He was subsequently given a monthly intralesional 5-FU injections (5 mg/0.1 ml) for a total of four injections and visible improvement was seen at first. However, at 1 month review after last injection, there is no complete regression of blood vessel at the pterygium site. The efficacy of monthly intralesional 5-FU was not as promising as compared with the weekly 5FU as it may not be adequate to halt the progression of recurrent pterygium. However, a longer follow-up and further studies are needed to determine the efficacy of these injection intervals as a viable alternative option.