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## AFLIBERCEPT IN THE TREATMENT OF RECURRENT MACULAR EDEMA IN NON-PROLIFERATIVE DIABETIC RETINOPATHY; A PROSPECTIVE STUDY

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The aim of this study is to evaluate the effect of aflibercept in cases with non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy with macular edema that has an inadequate response with bevacizumab treatment. This study was conducted in the Department of Ophthalmology of Mother Teresa Hospital in Tirana. This is a prospective study that includes 23 eyes diagnosed with non proliferative diabetic retinopathy with recurrent refractory macular edema of duration more than 6 months. All the patients were treated with bevacizumab intravitreal injection, but with no improvement of macular edema. To all this patients we started the treatment with aflibercept intravitreal injection. OCT and bestcorrected visual acuity was done before and 12 months after the treatment with aflibercept intravitreal injection. Data was collected and analyzed. In 23 eyes included in this study, 65% (15) were female and 35% (8) were male. The mean age of the patients was 58.08±5.58 years old. Mean number of bevacizumab injection before enrollments into study were 4.50±1.50. Mean numbers of aflibercept injections were 7(6-10.5). The OCT of 12 months after aflibercept intravitreal injection shows a central decrease of macular thickness in 87% of patients and in 79% we had an improvement of best corrected visual acuity. The treatment with aflibercept intravitreal injection in patients with recurrence diabetic macular edema shows decrease of central macular thickness and improvement of best-corrected visual acuity.

## **Biography**

Marsida Krasniqi has completed her PhD from Our Lady of Good Counsel University in Tirana, Albania. She is a Lecturer in the Department of Medical Science at Aleksandër Moisiu University of Durrës. She has authored or co-authored the book Manual of Management of Refractive Errors and has over 35 publications in peer-reviewed journals at regional, national and international conferences.

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