

4th International Conference on

Palliative Care, Medicine and Hospice Nursing

August 27-28, 2018 | Boston, USA

Safety of wearing contact lenses for patients using selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs)

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Objective: Due to the frequent use of contact lenses by modern humans, and the widespread usage of SSRIs, which is considered to be one of the antidepressants used by most people, leads to increased adverse effects such as elevated intraocular pressure, uveal effusions and angle-closure glaucoma, we reviewed English lectures to assess the effect of wearing contact lenses on eye side effects associated with SSRI.

Methods: To review the English lectures of Google Scholar and PubMed, which were related to the evidence of wearing contact lenses, changing intraocular pressure, and the role of SSRIs in controlling intraocular pressure in patients with SSRIs treatment.

Results: Acute angle-closure glaucoma and elevated intraocular pressure are the most important manifestations of SSRIs associated ocular adverse events. Case reports by Andrew and others showed that any patient using paroxetine may cause angle-closure glaucoma. In addition, some literature has reported that people wearing contact lenses have a risk of having increasing intraocular pressure, especially in the case of prolonged wearing of contact lenses, therefore contact lenses must be carefully selected.

Conclusion: Elevated intraocular pressure is an evidential cause of glaucoma. Thus, wearing contact lenses should be considered as a risk. In addition, SSRIs may have a side effect on elevating intraocular pressure. Therefore, it is worth noting that patients using SSRIs may have the same side effects when wearing contact lenses. In conclusion, patients who are advised to take SSRIs and have been in the cases of intraocular pressure elevation after taking SSRIs should be ensured the safe use of contact lenses.

Biography

Yi Pei Liu has passion in improving the health. She is a pharmacist from many years and very interested in long-term care and old age care.

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