

## Coats' disease: Analysis of 68 patients (70 eyes)

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Coats' disease is a rare, idiopathic illness caused by a presence of teleangiectatic – abnormal retinal vessels. Untreated may lead to retinal detachment, cataract and secondary glaucoma or even atrophy of the eye.

**Aim of the Study:** To determinate the most common diagnostic problems and evaluation of clinical response to the treatment of Coats' disease in children.

**Material and Methods:** The examined group constituted 68 patients (70 eyes). All patients were Caucasian, the vast majority of them were boys (83, 8%) in 2, 9% disease was bilateral. Examinations allowing recognizing disease were indirect ophthalmoscopy and USG. The choice of treatment method depended on a clinical condition: Extensity and location of abnormal vessels. Cryotherapy, transpupillary laser hyperthermia and anti-VEGF injections were used. A mean time of observation was 41 months.

**Results:** The mean age, at which the patients were diagnosed, was 80 months. A hearing impairment was additionally noted in 4 patients (5, 9%). The most commonly observed first symptoms was decreased vision (42, 6%), squint (32, 4%) and leucocoria (14, 7%). The most common improper diagnosis confirmed by local doctors was retinoblastoma. The biggest diagnostic problems were with patients with stage 3B (Shields' classification) – complete retinal detachment. As a result of the conducted treatment the improvement of visual acuity was achieved in 39, 2% of eyes, stabilisation in 33, 3% and deterioration in 27, 5% of eyes. A statistically significant relationship was found between a baseline disease characteristics and a final anatomical effect and between the expanse of abnormal vessels area and a final anatomical effects. The best results were achieved in patients with early stages of the disease (1 and 2 Shields' classification) and with a smaller expanse of abnormal vessels area (1-2 clock hours).

### Biography

Wojciech Hautz graduated from Medical Academy in Lublin, Poland in 1988 and he has done his specialization in ophthalmology (consultant), Warsaw and training in ocular oncology in St. Bartholomev's Hospital in London in 1995 (6 months). He also did his training in European Vitreo Retinal Society School – Bremen, Germany during 2006-1994. At present he is working in Ophthalmology Department-Children's Memorial Health Institute, Warsaw, from 2012. He is Head of The Ophthalmology Department general pediatric ophthalmology, consulting complicated cases from all over the country, he also deals with ophthalmic surgery – cataracts, glaucoma, strabismus, retinopathy of prematurity, intraocular tumors, retinal detachment, laser treatments conducting training for ophthalmologists from all over the country in pediatric ophthalmology, especially in retinopathy of prematurity and intraocular tumors. He is an author or co-author of about 118 papers published in Polish (97) and foreign (21) Ophthalmic Journals.

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