

Reversible Melanoma associated retinopathy

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Purpose:

To present the case of a patient with melanoma-associated retinopathy (MAR) that improved within a period of two years not only in symptoms but also in visual acuity, visual field defects and electrophysiological findings.

Case:

A 51 year old female patient with a history of metastasizing malignant melanoma was diagnosed with melanoma-associated retinopathy (MAR) in 07/2014. She presented with subacute symptoms such as nyctalopia, photopsia and increased photosensitivity. Diagnostic findings included diminished visual acuity, paracentral visual field defects and electronegative electroretinogram (ERG).

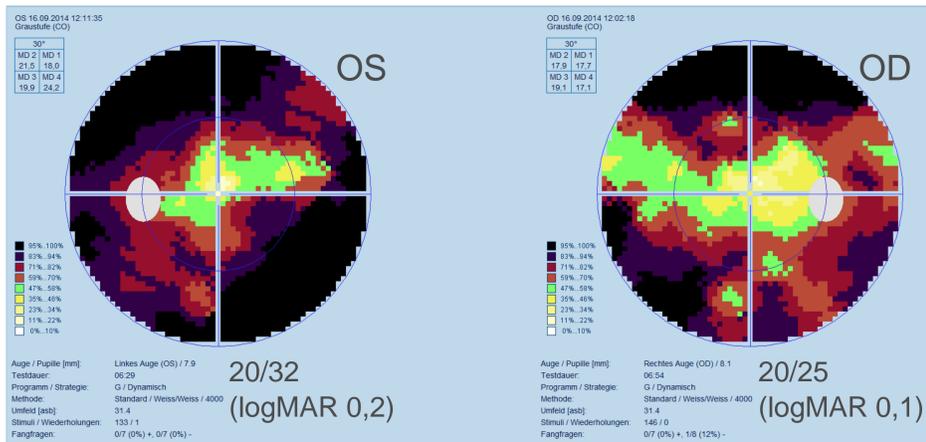
Conclusion:

Melanoma associated retinopathy can – at least partially – be reversible. Not only the typical symptoms, but also visual acuity, visual field defects and a pathologic electroretinogram can improve over time.

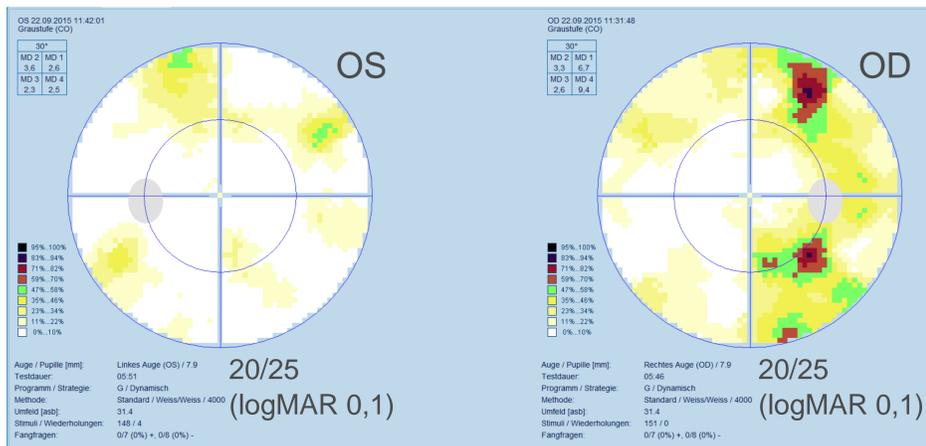
The malignant melanoma had been excised in 08/2011 and a dissection of lymph node metastases was performed in 05/2014. An additional radiotherapy took place in 08-09/2014. The patient did not receive any treatment for MAR except for a short-term therapy with oral prednisolone in a dosage of 60 mg per day, which was terminated because of progression of visual symptoms.

Octopus perimetry:

09/2014



09/2015

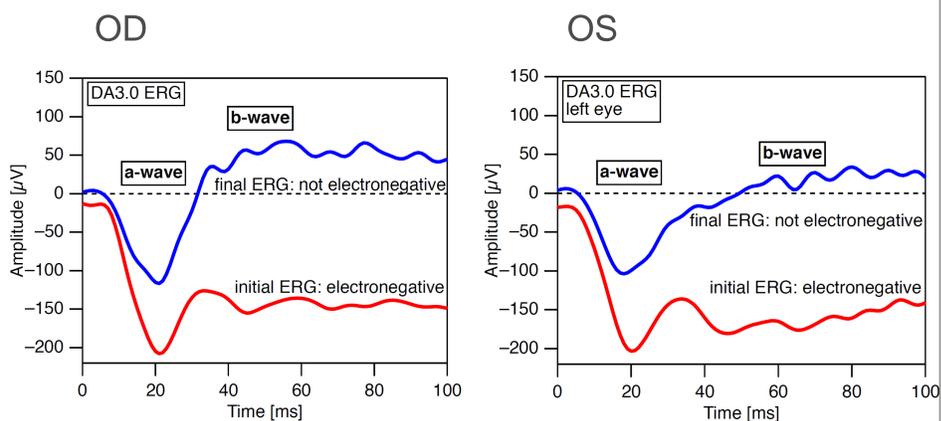


Visual acuity:

	OD	OS
Initial (07/2014):	20/32 (logMAR 0,2)	20/20 (logMAR 0)
Worst (07/2014)/(01/2015):	20/50 (logMAR 0,4)	20/63 (logMAR 0,5)
Final (07/2016):	20/20 (logMAR 0)	20/25 (logMAR 0,1)

Electroretinogram:

(dark adapted, flashstrength: 3 cd*s/m², background: 0 cd/m²)



07/2014 OD: 20/50 (logMAR 0,4)
 07/2016 OD: 20/20 (logMAR 0)

OS: 20/25 (logMAR 0,1)
 OS: 20/25 (logMAR 0,1)

Results:

Within a period of two years, visual acuity increased from a minimum value of OD 20/50, OS 20/63 (logMAR 0,4 / 0,5) at the lowest to OD 20/20, OS 20/25 (logMAR 0 / 0,1). The patient's visual symptoms vanished.

The initially marked visual field defects reversed to a normal field of vision and the ERG b-wave improved considerably in both eyes. In parallel, there was no more evidence of melanoma activity.