What is the impact of VMT and macular hole on affected people?

- Patients with vitreomacular traction (VMT) may experience compromised sight-related activities, physical constraints and an emotional impact.
- The impact of VMT and macular hole can affect activities of daily living, lifestyle, and quality of life.
- VMT is often responsible for progressive sight-threatening symptoms and irreversible vision loss.
- Research has shown that in only around 10% of people, VMT resolves spontaneously.
- In cases where VMT does not resolve spontaneously, patients may experience anatomical damage and further visual impairment.

What are the options for someone who has VMT?

- Until now, there have only been two options for patients with VMT or macular hole: “Watchful waiting” and vitrectomy surgery.
- In March 2013, Jetrea® intravitreal injection (ocriplasmin) was approved in the EU as the first medicine to treat adults with VMT including when associated with macular holes of diameter less than or equal to 400 microns.

What is “watchful waiting”?

- Following diagnosis, patients may undergo a period of observation, commonly referred to as “watchful waiting” as surgery is usually reserved for patients at a late stage of the disease.
- In roughly 10% of patients, VMT and early stage macular hole resolve spontaneously. During “watchful waiting” the hope may be that VMT resolves and patients will not require a surgical intervention.
- The prolonged process of monitoring patients until visual symptoms deteriorate can lead to disease progression, complications and, in some cases, serious irreversible damage.
- Watchful waiting can negatively impact physical symptoms and quality of life.

What is vitrectomy surgery?

- Vitrectomy is a surgical procedure which involves full or partial removal of the vitreous gel of the eye and careful peeling of the retinal membrane in some cases.
- Due to potential risks and complications, vitrectomy is currently reserved for patients who are heavily impacted by the symptoms caused by VMT and macular hole, usually at a later stage of the disease.
What is Jetrea® (ocriplasmin)?

With the approval of Jetrea® (ocriplasmin) intravitreal injection, Eye Care Professionals are given an option to treat adults in an early stage of VMT instead of waiting until the disease progresses further.9,12

- Jetrea® (ocriplasmin) is a breakthrough for people with VMT. It is the first and only pharmacologic treatment of its kind.9,12
- Ocriplasmin, the active ingredient of Jetrea®, is a recombinant form of human protein (plasmin), administered as a one-time intravitreal injection12
- Jetrea® (ocriplasmin) has been shown to provide early resolution of VMT, including when associated with macular hole of diameter less than or equal to 400 microns9,12

How does Jetrea® (ocriplasmin) work?

Jetrea® (ocriplasmin) works in two ways to free the vitreous from the retina:12,19

1. Firstly, it helps to make the vitreous more liquid

2. Secondly, it targets the protein fibers which cause the abnormal pull between vitreous and macula. By dissolving these proteins, Jetrea® (ocriplasmin) separates the vitreous from the macula, releasing VMT and helping to close the macular hole12,19
What do the clinical data for Jetrea® (ocriplasmin) show?

- In clinical studies, Jetrea® (ocriplasmin) successfully separated the vitreous from the macula, as compared to placebo.\(^9\)
  - 26.5% of Jetrea® (ocriplasmin) patients achieved release within one month (compared to 10.1% of placebo patients).\(^9,12\)
  - Among Jetrea® (ocriplasmin) patients that achieved release within one month, 72% achieved release within one week.\(^9\)
  - Within one month, Jetrea® (ocriplasmin) closed four times as many macular holes compared to placebo (40.6% vs. to 10.6% with placebo).\(^9,12\)

- Jetrea® (ocriplasmin) has an established safety profile with nearly 600 patients treated.\(^12\)
  - The majority of adverse reactions to Jetrea® were non-serious, mild in intensity and resolved within two to three weeks.\(^12\)
  - Most of the adverse reactions to Jetrea® (ocriplasmin) occurred within the first week after the injection.\(^12\)

References


Countries need to check whether Jetrea® safety information needs to be added for regulatory/legal compliance. See separate document with Jetrea® safety information.