

Removal of silicone oil with vision improvement after rhegmatogenous retinal detachment following CMV retinitis in patients with AIDS.

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Abstract:

PURPOSE: To report that silicone oil may be safely removed from immuno-recovered patients with acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) after instillation for cytomegalovirus (CMV)-related rhegmatogenous retinal detachment. **METHOD:** We report two patients with CMV-related retinal detachment who had previously been treated with vitrectomy and silicone oil. **RESULTS:** Six months after removal of silicone oil, the retina remained attached in both patients. Without specific anti-CMV therapy, there was no relapse of CMV retinitis while patients were undergoing highly active antiretroviral therapy. Best-corrected visual acuity improved in both patients. **CONCLUSION:** It appears to be possible to remove silicone oil safely from patients with AIDS who show immune recovery, thus avoiding side effects of long-standing silicone oil and increasing quality of life. After silicone oil removal, visual acuity was improved.