

## Ranibizumab in RVO

### Case study C

50 year old woman from London.

#### **From symptoms to seeking medical help**

Ms C started to experience blurring in her vision whilst watching television in the evenings. She decided to visit her optician where she was diagnosed with Diabetes and from then onwards she experienced a rapid deterioration in her vision. She was then referred to Hospital where she subsequently got 'lost in the system'. She was then referred on to a second Hospital which she felt didn't do anything to aid the situation. She eventually went back to the original Hospital for a low vision assessment and was asked about what had happened with her situation. The new consultant who hadn't been there at the original referral apologised and was very helpful in commencing the treatment process.

Ms C was initially offered many types of treatments to help improve her vision but she found this rather unnerving and believes that vitamins and supplements helped her situation and in the first year she noticed a steady improvement.

It was then discovered that she had a neovascularisation and needed urgent laser treatment to remedy the situation. During this time she experienced considerable sight loss and the consultant suggested and explained about the trial.

#### **Hospital treatment**

Ms C felt that in comparison to the laser procedure she had already received, which she described as unpleasant and uncomfortable, Lucentis was not that bad. She believes that the recovery process after this procedure was quicker as it took a full week before she felt that her co-ordination had returned to normal after Laser treatment. Although the idea of the procedure is unpleasant and still fairly stressful to endure, it was over quickly and the recovery period was speedy.

#### **Advantages of the treatment**

Ms C found that the main advantage was in comparison to the laser surgery which was extremely unpleasant. She felt Lucentis was less intense, quicker and her recovery was speedier.

Personally she has not noticed a huge amount of change in her vision but eye sight tests have detected improvements as she was able to see an extra seven letters with her treated eye. She believes her situation has now stabilised and there is not as much stress as before.

### **Disadvantages of the treatment**

Ms C believes that the thought of the treatment can be perceived as rather unpleasant but the reality is in fact not that bad. She herself did a lot of research and therefore knew what to expect and considered the advantages to outweigh the disadvantages. However she believes that it is imperative that the procedure is explained correctly and that the benefits are clearly shown as most of the general public may be put off by the thought of having an injection in the eye. But if the benefits of the procedure are shown against the deterioration that could occur if the eye is left untreated it will show that intervention is necessary as she believes it can slow down or even halt the process.