BACKGROUND

Although most patients with multiple sclerosis (MS) have inflammation of the optic nerve during the disease course, inflammation of the uveal tract, by contrast, is rarely recognized. We report a case of intermediate uveitis as manifestation of MS.

CASE REPORT

A 25-years-old white female was seen at the Uveitis Outpatient Clinics because of bilateral scotoma for one year.

At ophthalmological examination visual acuity was 20/40 in both eyes and ophthalmoscopy showed diffuse vasculitis, perimacular edema and the presence of snowbanking inferiorly. Fluorescein angiography and optic coherence tomography confirmed the vascular changes and the increased thickness of the retinal nerve fiber layer. A diagnosis of intermediate uveitis was made and the patient was started on oral corticosteroids.

In August 2009 she started complaining of sensory loss in the right upper extremity and was referred to CIEM MS Research Center for neurological consultation. Evaluation at our Center disclosed that the patient had a history of recurrent vertigo since the age of 15 years.

Neurological examination revealed brisk tendon reflexes but no other objective abnormal findings. Magnetic resonance imaging of the brain showed multifocal gadolinium-enhanced hyperintensities in deep white matter, periventricular regions and corpus callosum. CSF analysis revealed IgG index of 3.4 (reference <0.85).

Conclusion

Uveitis has been rarely associated with MS. Its frequency, patterns and severity are variable in different series and may depend on genetic factors. A study of the relationship between MS and uveitis in the Brazilian population is warranty.