

## **When Inflammation Stops and Atrophy Starts**

M. Accorinti

*Dipartimento di Scienze Oftalmologiche, Sapienza Università di Roma, Rome, Italy*

In the setting of many choroidal and retinal inflammatory disorders it is easy to find, in long term follow-up, an enlargement of previously observed retinal scars or the progression of atrophic areas leading to a permanent reduction of visual acuity or loss of visual fields. There might be different causes to justify this finding, including the presence of subclinically active disease, the progression of an occlusive vasculopathy, a negative influence of concomitant ocular diseases, or a direct role of inflammation in the apoptotic mechanism usually present within the retina and the choroidal. A crucial point is to understand whether the patient is presenting an active inflammation requiring therapy or if there is no role for a therapeutic intervention. A detailed discussion on this scenario will be presented.