



Ocular Manifestation of Systemic Diseases

[**Color index:** Important | Notes: F1, F2/A | Extra] [EDITING FILE](#)

Objectives:

➤ Not given.

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Resources: Slides + Notes + 435 Team.

*** Don't let the number of pages deceive you. It is mostly pictures.**

*** Prof. Abu El-asrar emphasized on the importance of (Kanski's Clinical Ophthalmology) book "just search for a disease mentioned in the lecture & look at its pictures" [LINK](#)**

*** Dr. Esam (organizer) said a lot of MCQs & SAQ pictures will come from this lecture.**

*** Special thanks to Bedoor Julaidan for her amazing note taking skills!**



One last thing... grab a cup of coffee

Diabetes Mellitus

● Overview

- By far the most common disease that can affect the eyes and even can cause blindness and now considered to be irreversible cause of blindness is diabetes.
- The commonest cause of legal blindness in individuals between the ages of 20 and 65 years. This is relatively young people. Which means that blindness due to DR has a major impact on the country because the cost of taking care of blind people is very huge. So it has a major socioeconomic problem.
- The risk of blindness is about 25 times greater in diabetics than in non-diabetics.

Risk factors	
Modifiable	Non-modifiable
<p>* Glycemic control: tight control of blood sugar especially if started early in the course of diabetes is very beneficial to prevent and stop progression of diabetic retinopathy, not only diabetic retinopathy but also other microvascular disease such as: nephropathy and neuropathy. This evidence came from many studies, one of the oldest is diabetes control and complications study that was multi-centered study, patients were followed for 6 and half years and was mainly focusing on type 1 diabetes. Young diabetics were randomized to receive conventional insulin treatment (1 or 2 injections per day) vs tight control of blood sugar in the form of insulin pump or several insulin injections per day. The group who had tight control they had mean HA1C 7.2%. Then at the end of follow up, it was clear and obvious that tight control of blood sugar protected against development and progression of diabetic retinopathy. Another big observation that after termination of study, all the patients resumed the previous medication, so those patients who were tightly controlled are no longer tightly controlled. Then it was found that even that the 2 groups have equal blood sugar levels, those who had tight control early in the course of diabetes were still protected. So early tight control after the onset of diabetes is very important. This phenomenon is known as "metabolic memory".</p>	<p>* Duration: if we look to the risk factors related to the incidence of DR, it is the strongest and unfortunately cannot be avoided . It's estimated that by 10-15 years of diabetes about 90% of patients with DM type 1 will develop some sort of retinopathy, and about 60% of type 2 diabetes will have some sort of retinopathy.</p>
<p>* Blood pressure: tight control of blood pressure is very important. In the UK prospective study "which was mainly looking at type 2 diabetes". Patients were randomized into tight control and conventional treatment, but the study looked also to the effect of controlling blood pressure "tight vs conventional treatment". It was found that should be controlled (<140/80 mmHg).</p>	<p>- Patients with type 1 diabetes tend to have more aggressive disease "more aggressive fibrovascular proliferation".</p>
<p>* Other important factors like: exercise, controlling obesity, blood lipid, pregnancy, nephropathy (renal transplantation may improve DR), smoking, cataract surgery and anemia.</p>	
<p>- The combination of poor glycemic control in addition to high blood pressure is very destructive to the retinal circulation and we see it every day among our patients.</p> <p>- Another study called ACCORD found the same phenomenon that control of blood sugar was very important. It also found that group of drugs used to control dyslipidemia (fenofibrate) by unknown mechanism was protective. It's now an important argument that all diabetics should use fenofibrate.</p>	<p>- Patients who develop type 1 diabetes in childhood, the risk to have retinopathy is very minimal before the age of puberty.</p>

● Ocular Manifestations

- **Iris:** Rubeosis Iridis
- **Lens:** Cataract diabetics are more prone to have it. (glucose affects osmolarity → the lens gets opacified)
- **Iridocyclitis:** inflammation of the iris and of the ciliary body. Also called "anterior uveitis" and "iritis"
- **Retinopathy:** the major problem is retinopathy, **most common one.**
- **Optic neuropathy.**
- **Third, Fourth & sixth nerve palsies:** especially in those who are not having good control.

Diabetic Retinopathy (DR)

– Most common microvascular complication of DM and can lead to retinal degeneration.

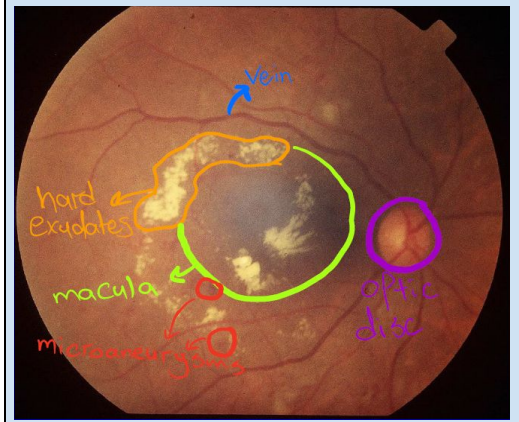
The story behind diabetic retinopathy (2 components)		
Neuropathy	Very early in the course of diabetes, the retinal neurons are suffering even without vascular retinopathy. So, there is very early phenomenon of neuropathy that retinal neurons are suffering and many of them die early because of apoptosis as result of hyperglycemic exudative stress “centers of apoptosis are expressed by retinal neurons even in subjects without DR”.	
Microvascular disease “what we see clinically”. Has 2 major changes	1. Progressive vasculopathy	2. Progressive microvascular occlusion
	Characterized by breakdown of blood retinal barrier (vessels of retina are lined by endothelial cells with tight junctions lying on basement membrane and surrounded by pericytes. The tight junctions of endothelial cells are responsible for integrity of blood retinal barrier). Very early in the course of diabetes, you have disruption of tight junctions proteins such as occludin and ve cadherin and this means that blood vessels become leaky so they leak fluid and lipoprotein and this will cause edema , and edema of macula is an important cause of moderate visual loss in diabetic retinopathy .	This will lead to retinal hypoxia and ischemia. Then retinal ischemia will activate transcriptional factors such as HIF-1-alpha “hypoxia- inducible- factor 1 alpha”. This HIF-1-alpha will upregulate many <u>angiogenic factors</u> and the most famous is vascular endothelial growth factor “VEGF”. VEGF is known to be hyperpermeability factor, It will cause breakdown of blood retinal barrier in addition, it’s an angiogenic factor (it induces proliferation, migration and tube formation of endothelial cells) which ends with formation of new vessels (proliferative disease). These new vessels are always accompanied by fibrous tissue. At the end, this fibrous tissue will cause traction of retina → tractional retinal detachment and the new vessels can bleed → the patient comes to ER with dramatic visual loss “suddenly he/she woke up and he/she cannot see”, and the first change that cause dramatic visual loss is vitreous hemorrhage. This is natural history of disease.

– Screening:

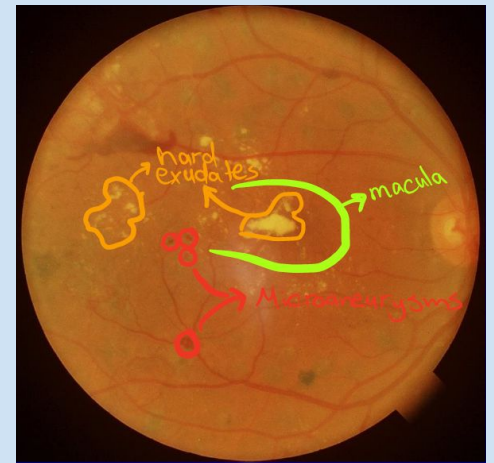
- You have to know that the **only way to prevent blindness** due to diabetic retinopathy is to do **regular screening for all diabetic patients**. Why? Because the patient might have blinding disease and he is still asymptomatic, and the time when he becomes symptomatic due to bleeding is too late.
- **The main objective of screening program** is to detect blinding disease at the stage when still asymptomatic (**still treatable with laser photocoagulation**). We should also discuss injecting **anti-VEGF agents** (3 drugs available: Bevacizumab “Avastin”, Ranibizumab “Lucentis”, Aflibercept “Eylea”) that help in controlling diabetic retinopathy.
- The screening is done by using a camera “**non mydriatic fundus camera**”. The camera will take a picture and the picture will be sent to computer and the doctor will look into the picture grading the severity of retinopathy (if the patient need laser or only follow up). **This is the international guideline to use non mydriatic fundus camera for screening**.
- Patients with type 1 diabetes don’t need screening unless they have **5 years** or more of diabetes. Patients with type 2 diabetes need immediate screening because many of them have diabetes which wasn’t recognized. If the retina is ok then the screening is done **every year**. If mild non PDR → done after **6 months**. If it’s severe non PDR, PDR or macular edema → **refer to laser**.

Non-Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy (NPDR)

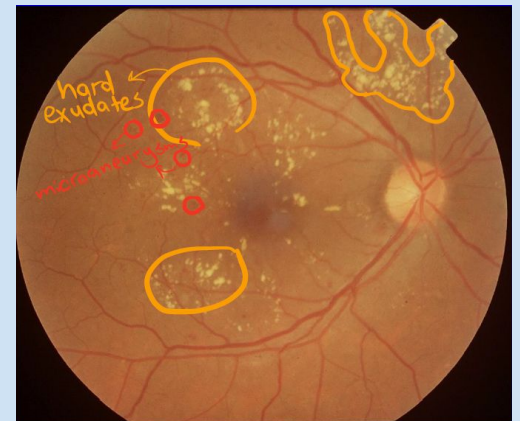
This is the right eye of patient with diabetes. This is optic disc with optic nerve head. This is the macula. If you look to the retinal vessels, the **veins are always darker than arteries and broader**. You can see in the macula, the collection of hard exudate (composed of lipoprotein and lipid laden macrophages). These hard exudates are result of **leakage**, it's a sign of **macular edema**. You can see small red dots, these dots are microaneurysms and these are the source of leakage so the management here is to do **focal laser photocoagulation** (What are the targets of focal laser? Red dots. Focal laser has been shown to be associated with better outcomes compared to no treatment) Nowadays we have available anti-VEGF agents that can be injected to the eyes, So if the edema is involving the center of macula like in this patient .we can **enhance the effect of laser by giving injection of anti-VEGF agents**



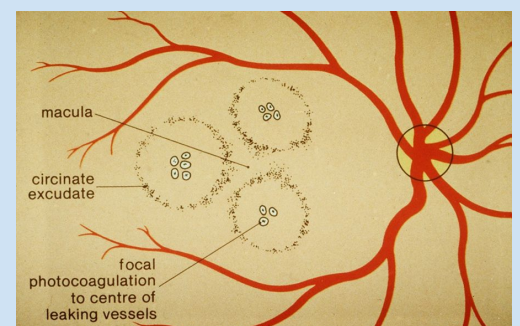
This is another example of **macular edema**, you can see the **hard exudates** (hard exudates are the result of leakage “breakdown of blood retinal barrier”). And you can see the red spots that we need to treat with laser photocoagulation



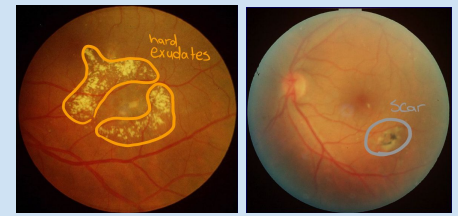
Another example of more extensive **hard exudates**, and you can see the red dots “we should close by focal laser photocoagulation”



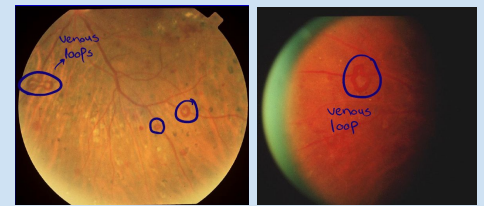
This cartoon shows you how we do focal photocoagulation (hard exudates are the rings) (microaneurysms are the small dots inside the rings)



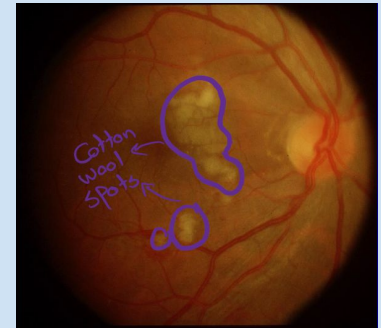
This is a patient who had a large ring of hard exudates and these are laser scars, usually it takes up to 6 months for hard exudates to absorb then after 6 months as you can see in the second picture, there is a complete resolution of hard exudates.



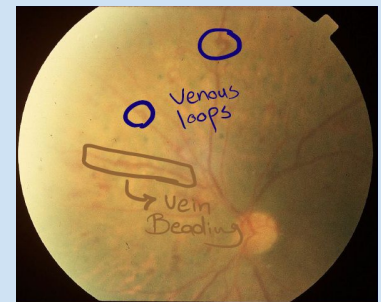
You can see venous loops.



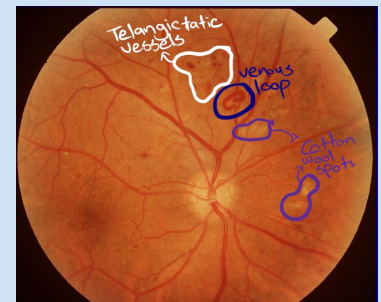
All the previous pictures showed leakage component of retinopathy. Other component as we said is progressive occlusion of retinal arterioles and this will cause ischemia. There are signs in the retina that can tell me that the retina is very ischemic before development of new vessels, and these signs we call them **severe nonproliferative retinopathy**. One of these signs is **cotton wool spots** (the result of infarction of retina due to occlusion of retinal arterioles) Why did they call it like that? Because it's similar to small pieces of cotton



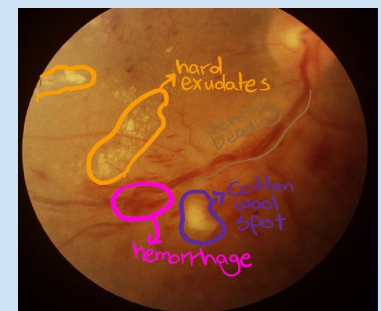
The most important sign of **severe retinal ischemia** and the most reliable sign is **venous changes**. What are these changes? **Venous loops**. Also look to the course of this vein, there are dilated areas and constricted areas (**beading**). So **venous looping and beading are very important signs of retinal ischemia and the most important signs of retinal ischemia are venous changes**.



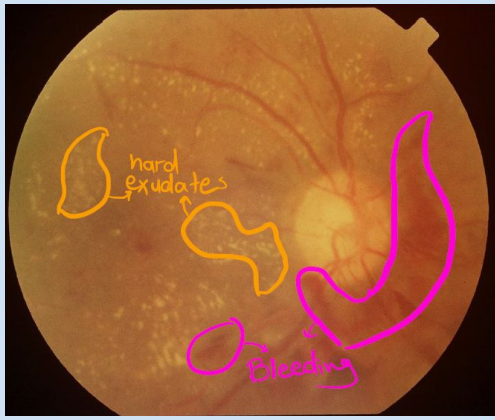
Venous loops. They call it sometimes **omega sign**. You can see the cotton wool spots. We have another sign of retinal ischemia called **Intraretinal microvascular abnormalities**, these are dilated **telangiectatic vessels** within the retina, the origin is not well known it can be collaterals, it can be new vessels still within retina. You can see here the dilated telangiectatic vessels. These are all signs of **severe non proliferative retinopathy** and we tend to treat with **pan retinal photocoagulation** in this stage.



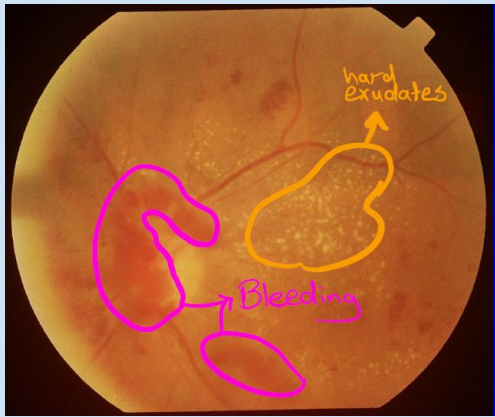
You can see venous beading (dilated and constricted parts), cotton wool spots, hard exudates. The patient has signs of ischemia and leakage. here are a lot of intraretinal hemorrhages (this is another sign of severe retinal ischemia, presence of **intraretinal hemorrhages in 4 quadrants** is a sign of severe non- proliferative retinopathy). To summarize **what are the signs of severe non- proliferative retinopathy: Venous changes, (IrMAs) Intraretinal microvascular abnormalities, hemorrhages in 4 quadrants** "cotton wool spots are less important"



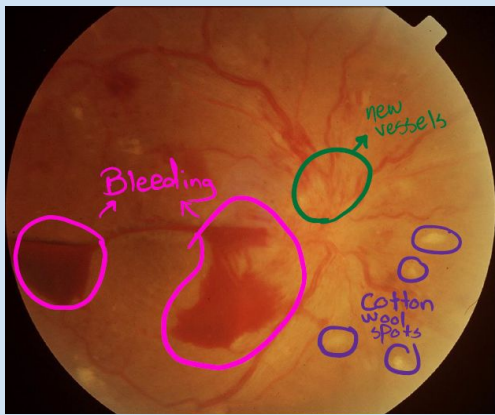
Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy (PDR)



45% of patients with severe non-PDR will progress into proliferative disease within one year. What is the definition of proliferative disease?
Neovascularization and the most important site for neovascularization is **optic nerve head**. In the pic, if you look to the optic disc you can see new abnormal blood vessels with bleeding. In addition the patient has hard exudates. This is a proliferative blinding disease and the patient needs urgent intervention in the form of **pan-retinal photocoagulation**.



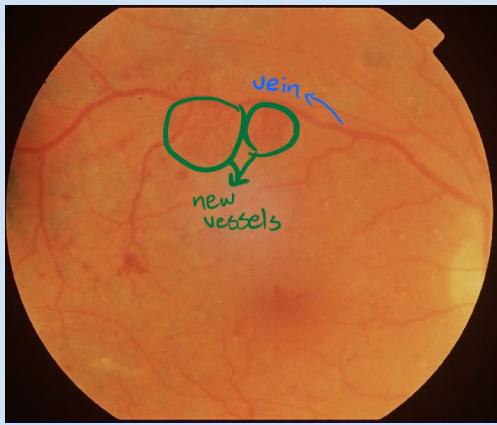
You can see bleeding of new vessels so this is a proliferative disease with hard exudates (we frequently see this combination)



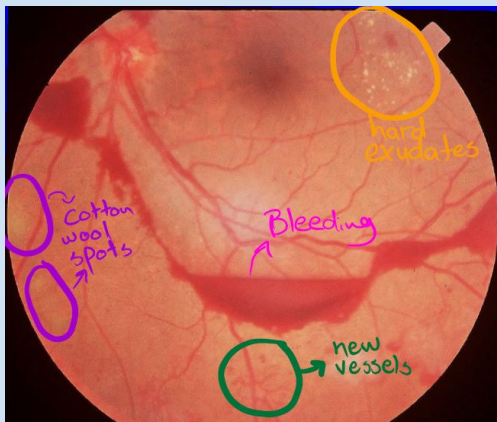
This a patient with proliferative disease and we can see here blood in front of retina, cotton wool spots, venous changes and new vessels on the optic disc



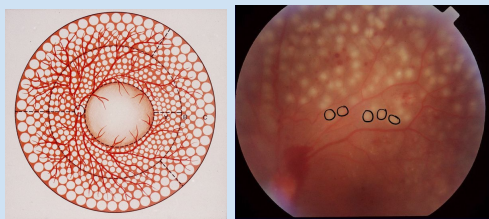
This is another example of a very aggressive new vessels. The New vessels are coming from optic disc.



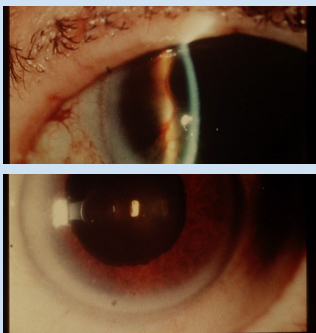
New vessels can develop outside the optic nerve and **always from the veins**. Here we can see new vessels originating from veins outside the optic nerve



Proliferative disease. Patient now has bleeding 'subhyaloid hemorrhage'. You can see the neovascularization, hard exudates and cotton wool spots.



Left Picture: now the treatment of proliferative DR or severe non PDR is by **laser** (pan-retinal photocoagulation. Why is it call like that? Because you apply scattered laser burns throughout the retina sparing the optic nerve and macula and this automatically will be followed by regression of new vessels)
Right Picture: example of pan-retinal photocoagulation. These are laser burns. If there is extensive exudates and hemorrhages, PRP "panretinal photocoagulation" is done (the whole periphery gets cauterized except the posterior pole). results in loss of rods → **loss of vision at night**.



Another big complication of retinal ischemia is formation of new vessels on the iris and the angle of anterior chamber, this is called **Rubeosis iridis (neovascular glaucoma)**. As a result of ischemia, the new vessels will not only develop on the retina, they develop also on the iris and it involves the angle "will close the angle by fibrous tissue", this will cause very aggressive type of glaucoma called neovascular glaucoma and it's a blinding disease. The angiogenic factors like VEGF will move into the anterior chamber and cause neovascularization of iris and the angle. This happens with any retinal ischemia like central retinal vein occlusion, but mainly with DR.



The following summarizes everything:

● Changes seen in DR:

1. Hard exudates on the retina and macular edema resulted from the leakage of and lipoproteins “yellow spots”.
 2. Microaneurysms ‘blots and dots’.
 3. Soft exudates ‘cotton-wool spots’ “white spots”.
 4. Venous changes: beading vs looping (The most reliable signs of retinal ischemia in diabetic retinopathy).
 5. Hemorrhage if neovascularization results in weak vessels and easy to break.
 6. Neovascularization.
- * Circinate exudate: when blood vessels leak it will result in Exudates and hemorrhages AROUND the source of leaking.

● Non PDR

- Mild NPDR: microaneurysm only.
 - Moderate NPDR: microaneurysms – retinal haemorrhages - circumstances exudates – cotton wool spots – minimal intraretinal microvascular anomalies (arteriovenous shunt) – minimal venous changes (looping and beading).
 - Severe NPDR : all of the above + severe intraretinal microvascular anomalies (arteriovenous shunt) – severe venous changes (looping and beading) ‘Consider panretinal laser coagulation’
- Intraretinal microvascular abnormalities (IRMA): are arteriolar– venular shunts that run from retinal arterioles to venules, thus bypassing the capillary bed and are therefore often seen adjacent to areas of marked capillary hypoperfusion.
- Dilated telangiectatic capillaries Intraretinal Hemorrhage: The extent of involvement is a significant marker of the likelihood of progression to proliferative diabetic retinopathy.
- Diabetic macular edema “DMO”: Nowadays, Optic coherence tomography (OCT) is used to diagnose early macular edema even in patients with very mild edema that you can’t see it.

– Treatment:

1. **Focal laser photocoagulation:** Treatment of micro aneurysms with laser (After 6 months there will be a scar from the laser treatment but no hard exudate). Very effective in controlling diabetic macular edema.
2. **Intravitreal injection of anti-VEGF agents** (anti- vascular endothelial growth factor) in addition to laser, we frequently inject Intravitreal injection of anti-VEGF agents to help control diabetic macular edema. * Diabetic retinopathy patients have progressive macular vascular occlusion, which will cause ischemia of retina (hypoxia).

● PDR

- New vessels at the disc (NVD): describes neovascularization on or within one disc diameter of the optic nerve head.
- New vessels elsewhere (NVE): describes neovascularization further away from the disc; it may be associated with fibrosis if long-standing.
- New vessels on the iris (NVI): also known as rubeosis iridis, carry a high likelihood of progression to neovascular glaucoma.

– **Treatment:** Pan-retinal photocoagulation | Intravitreal anti-VEGF injection

– Complications of Retinal photocoagulation:

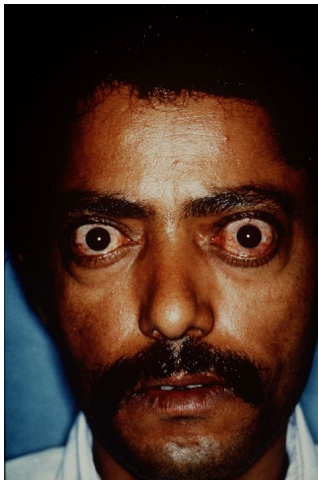
1. Anterior segment complications such as corneal or lenticular opacification
2. Transient visual loss.
3. Photocoagulation of the fovea.
4. Macular edema.
5. Hemorrhage.
6. Choroidal Effusion
7. Color vision alterations. Visual field defects and night vision problems.
8. Hemeralopia.

Graves' Disease

-wasn't mentioned by Prof. Abu El-asrar-

● Ocular Manifestations

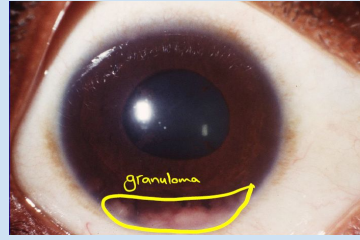
- Eyelid retraction.
 - Infiltrative ophthalmopathy.
 - Proptosis and exophthalmos.
 - Dysthyroid optic neuropathy.
 - Restrictive thyroid myopathy.
 - Lid lag, chemosis, exposure keratopathy, ophthalmoplegia.
- Most common cause of both **bilateral** and **unilateral** proptosis in an adult.
- **Pathogenesis:**
- Autoimmune disease characterized with serum IgG antibodies bind to TSH receptors in the thyroid and causes overstimulation and high thyroid hormone production.
 - Autoimmune antibodies infiltrate eye, cause inflammation of extraocular muscles and associated with increased secretion of glycosaminoglycans and osmotic imbibition of water.
- **Risk factors:** smoking (most important) – family history
- **Systemic manifestation:** pretibial myxedema, heat intolerance, weight loss
- **Investigations:**
1. Thyroid function test: **high T3, T4 and low TSH.**
 2. Visual evoked potential: To exclude Optic neuropathy.
- **Treatment:**
1. Anti-thyroid medications or thyroid ablation with radioactive iodine (for disease itself)
 2. Steroid, lubricants and eye protection before sleep (for eye symptoms)
 3. If there is restrictive myopathy surgical intervention is required



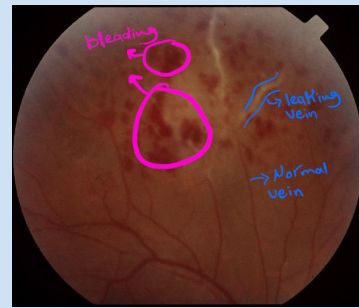
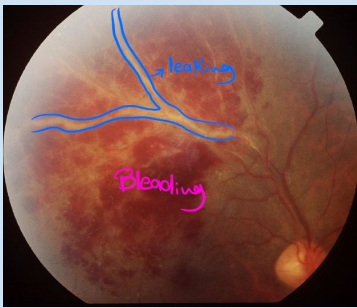
Tuberculosis

Ocular features:

- Phlyctenular keratoconjunctivitis a hypersensitivity reaction of the cornea and conjunctiva to bacterial antigens, is characterized by discrete nodular areas of corneal or conjunctival inflammation
- Interstitial keratitis - Vitritis - Choroidal granuloma.
- Uvea TB can affect eyes causing uveitis "a study was done to reveal that Tuberculous uveitis is the second most common cause of uveitis as a referral in KAAUH". If uveitis is only involving the anterior part like iris → called anterior uveitis. If it's involving the posterior part like choroid → called posterior uveitis. If it's involving the whole uvea → pan-uveitis. TB is an important cause of uveitis, uveitis in TB can mimic anything
- Retinal vasculitis 'Eales disease'.



This is a 16-year-old patient. Can you see the pinkish nodules in the angle? She had granulomas 'Phlyctenular keratoconjunctivitis'. When you see such granulomas you have to think about 2 conditions: either **TB or sarcoidosis**. This patient had many members of family with TB and she was managed with systemic anti-tuberculous treatment with improvement.



Patient came to the ER. You can see white veins (due to exudates) + hemorrhages "tuberculous retinal vasculitis" respond to anti-TB treatment, if you don't give anti-tuberculous treatment it will end by **losing the eye**.

Another common manifestation of ocular TB is **retinal vasculitis**. If you look here to the retinal vessels, this is a normal vein but you can see it turned white with a lot of intraretinal hemorrhages meaning that this vein is inflamed and leaking blood. So this **white appearing-vein** is called **cheesing** and it's a sign of **retinal vasculitis**, it's due to peri-venous accumulation of inflammatory exudates and cells. TB is a common cause of occlusive retinal vasculitis. We have the advantage in the retina that we don't need biopsy to diagnose vasculitis, we see it clinically.

- TB is a chronic granulomatous infection usually caused in humans by Mycobacterium tuberculosis.
- TB is primarily a pulmonary disease but may spread by the bloodstream to other sites; ocular involvement (TB can involve any part of the eye) commonly occurs without clinically overt systemic disease. Extrapulmonary TB when you have an eye infection without pulmonary infection in 60% of cases.
- Tubercles uveitis is an important cause of blindness
- TB may be indolent and the first manifestation in the eye.
- Can be: 1. Direct infection 2. Immune response to tubercular protein
- TB is the second most common cause of uveitis in KSA, after Vogt- koyanagi-Harada disease, and the third cause is Behçet disease.

– Granulomatous inflammation that is the disposition of mutton-fat keratic precipitate, iris nodules, infiltration of the choroids, and retinal vasculitis. These are the most important manifestation of TB in the eye. Mutton-fat keratic precipitation: collection of inflammatory cells on the corneal endothelium appear large with yellowish color. (can be seen as white dot inferiorly, mostly due to staph but could be caused by TB).

– **Investigations:**

1. First you should take a good history. (family history or history of exposure will increase the chance that the eye inflammation is caused by TB).
2. CXR to roll out that the patient has previous infection in the chest.
2. We rely more to tuberculin skin test, if it was strongly positive, 15 mm or more induration, this will support the diagnosis.
3. PCR and the interferon-gamma release assay (IGRA).
4. Aqueous or vitreous sampling rarely yields demonstrable (smear – acid-fast bacilli on Ziehl-Neelsen staining – or culture – Lowenstein-Jensen medium).

– **Treatment:**

1. Prolonged Anti-TB therapy *multi-drug therapy (4 drugs in 2 months, then continue for 6 months with 2 drugs). Isoniazid (with Vitamin B6 (pyridoxine) to prevent the development of peripheral neuropathy), rifampicin, pyrazinamide and ethambutol- Ethambutol can cause optic neuropathy-
- 2- Topical and systemic steroids may be used concomitantly to reduce inflammation- induced damage.

Leprosy (Hansen's Disease)

-Prof. Abu El-asrar skipped it-

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- Ocular involvement is more common in the lepromatous type.
 - **Signs:** Facial nerve affection, Loss of the lateral portions of the eyebrows and eyelashes (Madarosis), Interstitial keratitis, Iritis.

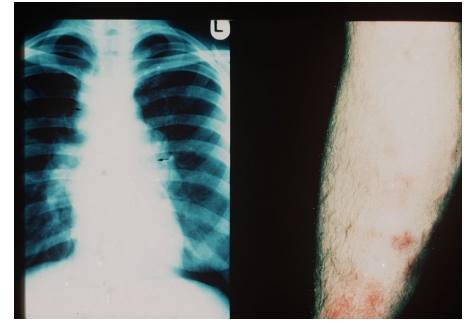
Syphilis

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- **Congenital:** transplacental infection
 - Interstitial keratitis
 - Chorioretinitis
 - **Acquired**
 - Ocular chancre.
 - Iridocyclitis.
 - Interstitial keratitis.
 - Chorioretinitis.
 - Neuro-ophthalmic.
 - When we see a patient with uveitis you always rule out syphilis (this is international recommendation) by doing serological testing of syphilis “VDRL, fluorescent treponemal antibody absorption (FTA-ABS)”. Despite this, we diagnose syphilis very rarely here, but when we look to western countries like UK there are a lot of cases of syphilis “syphilitic uveitis” which means that until now so far we are protected against this bad disease. London is a city full of syphilis, the patient comes with syphilitic uveitis → receives treatment → cured then he will come again with another attack of syphilitic uveitis due to another exposure. They call syphilis the great mimicker because it can cause any type of eye inflammation and that’s why we always do serology for syphilis in any patient with uveitis.

Sarcoidosis

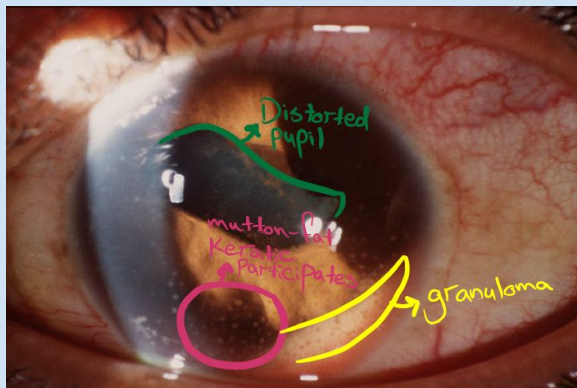
● Eye lesions

- Lid margin and conjunctival granuloma
- Acute iridocyclitis
- Chronic granulomatous iridocyclitis
- Peripheral retinal periphlebitis
- Choroidal granulomas
- Retinal granulomas
- Optic nerve head granulomas
- Sarcoidosis is an important cause of uveitis. It's not common here but in a country like Japan, sarcoidosis is the most common cause of uveitis.

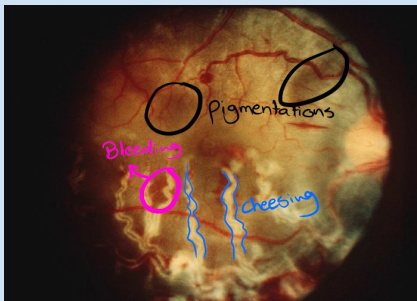


Sarcoidosis causes **non-caseating granulomas** when compared to TB that causes caseating granulomas. Retinal vasculitis can also be seen in sarcoidosis.

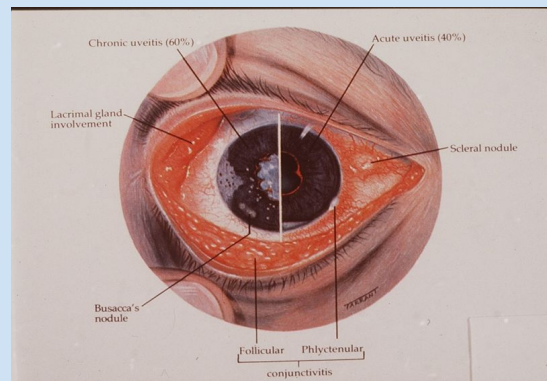
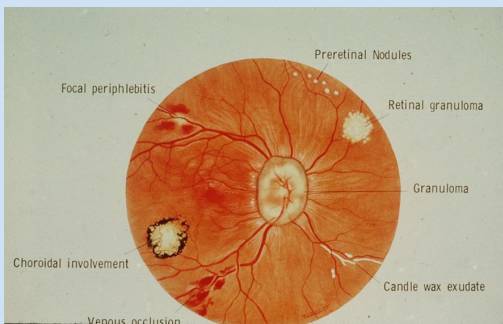
- When we suspect sarcoidosis as a cause of uveitis, we always ask for CT of the chest. What do you expect to see in CT? Hilar lymphadenopathy and also granulomatous infiltration of the lungs.



This is a good example of a patient with sarcoidosis to show you important signs. You can see the cornea and behind the cornea is the anterior chamber then iris then lens. You can see whitish deposits on the back of cornea these are called **Keratic particulates** which is an important sign in uveitis. Keratic particulates in sarcoidosis are big therefore they're called **mutton-fat**. So the differential diagnoses when you see mutton-fat Keratic precipitates → sarcoidosis, TB, syphilis, Vogt-koyanagi-Harada and multiple sclerosis "MS is an important cause of uveitis" because mutton-fat precipitates are a sign of granulomatous inflammation. You can see in the angle a big granuloma. Distorted pupil caused by synechiae, when you have chronic granulomatous inflammation then you can have adhesions between the pupil and lens so when you dilate the pupil the pupil doesn't dilate.



This is a 14-year-old African American patient "you can see pigmentations of the fundus are black" (a lot of African American have sarcoidosis). In the pic, you can see a lot of vasculitis and cheesing. The patient responded very quickly to systemic corticosteroids



Can affect the optic nerve, it can occur on the retina and we can have vasculitis

– **Systemic manifestation:**

- The triad: erythema nodosum - bilateral hilar lymphadenopathy – polyarthralgia.
- Could be the same as TB manifestation

– **Ocular manifestation:**

- Candle-wax exudate in the retina
- Optic nerve, Retinal, Choroidal Lid margin and conjunctival granulomas.
- Mutton-fat keratic precipitates

– **Investigations:**

- Tuberculin skin test: negative in sarcoidosis
 - Chest X-ray: showing bilateral hilar lymphadenopathy (BHL) (DIAGNOSTIC)
 - Elevated serum ACE levels and/or elevated serum lysozyme
 - Abnormal liver enzyme tests
- Biopsy should be taken to confirm the diagnosis, if we were in doubt.

– **Treatment:**

- Steroid and NSAIDs.

Rubella

- Cataract
- Microphthalmos
- Retinopathy pigmentary retinopathy: salt and pepper.
- Glaucoma
- Anterior uveitis: unresponsive to steroids.
- They use VERY big glasses. they use hearing aid also.
- If the mother is infected with rubella virus, the baby can be born with congenital rubella syndrome (the baby will have cataract, small eyes “Microphthalmos”, retinopathy and glaucoma). Systemically, they have heart disease and deafness.



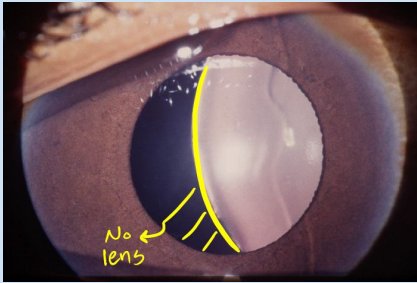
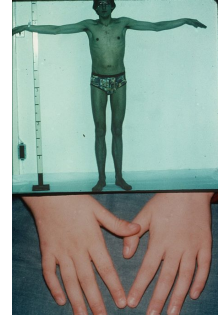
Wilson's Disease

- Hepatolenticular degeneration.
- **Ocular features:**
- Kayser-Fleischer ring consists of a brownish-yellow zone of fine copper dusting in peripheral descemet membrane detected with gonioscopy (Important sign)
- Green sunflower cataract
- There is excessive copper deposition in the tissues due to deficiency of the carrier protein which is called alpha 2 globulin “ceruloplasmin”. So in the eye, the copper can be deposited at the peripheral part of Descemet's membrane and this will cause Kayser-Fleischer ring (the presence of this ring is diagnostic for Wilson's disease). Copper can also be deposited in the lens causing green sunflower cataract.
- **Systemic manifestation:** Liver disease, Basal ganglia dysfunction, Psychiatric disturbances.
- **Treatment:** Penicillamine.

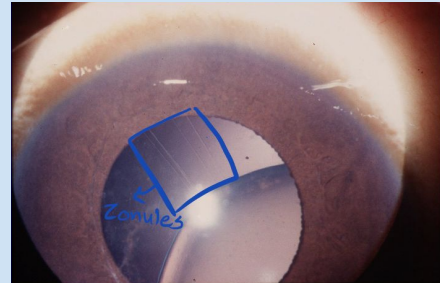
Marfan's Syndrome

● Ocular features

- Lens subluxation the major feature of the disease is lens subluxation
- Angle anomaly
- Glaucoma
- Hypoplasia of the dilator M.
- Axial myopia
- Retinal detachment
- **Picture:** this is the systemic manifestation with arachnodactyly.



This iris and the pupil. What do you see behind the pupil?
Subluxated lens, you can see the equator of the lens visible through pupil



Another patient with subluxated lens and you can see the stretched zonules

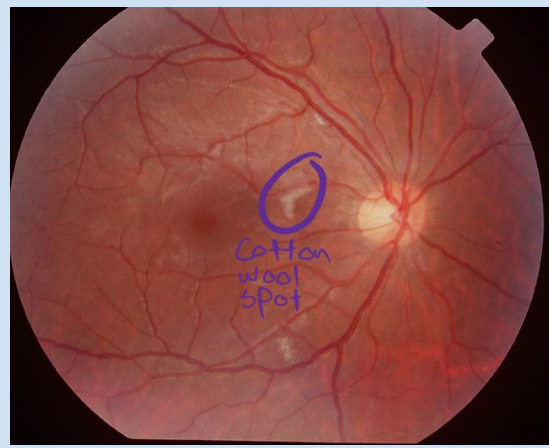
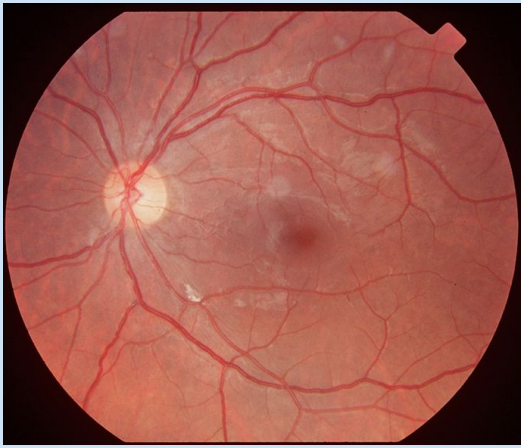
It is an autosomal dominant disease.

Systemic manifestation: Arachnodactyly (Long fingers), Heart diseases, Bone deformities

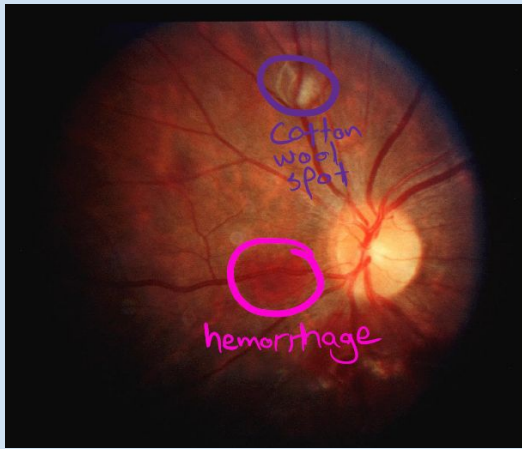
Systemic Lupus Erythematosus

- If you see a patient with these facial features, what's your diagnosis? **SLE** "an autoimmune disease with multiple autoantibodies like: **antinuclear antibodies, anti ds DNA antibodies, the patient has high ESR, low C3 and C4**". If the disease is active, it can affect the eye particularly retina. The retinal affection will be more if the patient was also positive for antiphospholipid antibodies "lupus anticoagulants, anticardiolipin antibodies"
- What do you see in the retina? The disease mainly manifests as **retinopathy in the retina "cotton wool spots"** meaning that it causes occlusion of retinal arterioles. So the main pathology is micro-thrombosis of retinal arterioles causing multiple retinal infarctions "cotton wool spots with or without hemorrhages"
- **Scenario:** young lady with **Bilateral multiple cotton wool spots** (Always think of SLE)

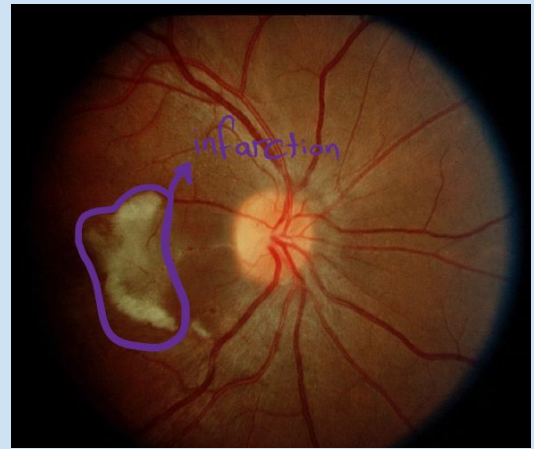




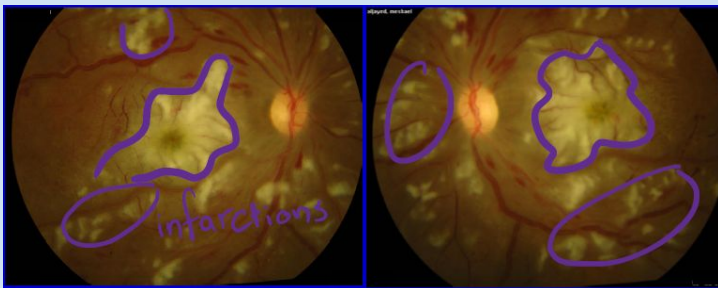
Good example of cotton wool spots. This is a mild disease



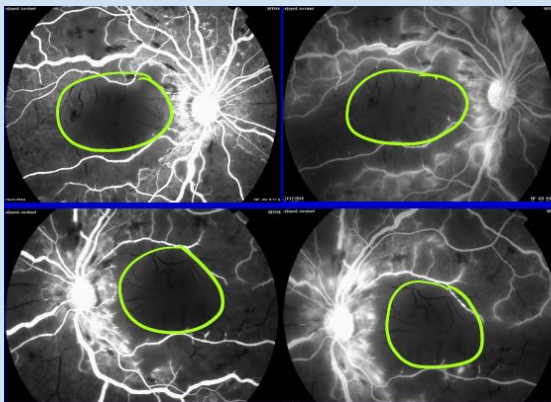
More severe disease: cotton wool spots & hemorrhages



Occlusion of this arteriole causing infarction



This is a very dramatic presentation. This was a young 22-year-old lady. The treating ophthalmologist thought that these white patches are retinitis, he didn't think about infarctions. The moment we saw the patient in the ER we made a diagnosis of possible SLE. The patient was admitted and she was positive for antinuclear antibodies, anti ds DNA antibodies referred to rheumatology for treatment.




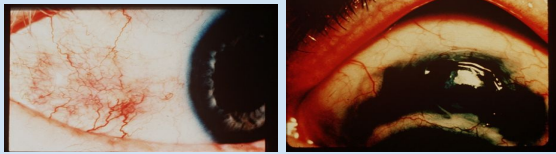
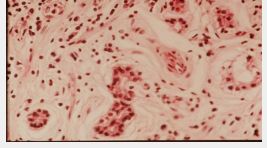

Fluorescein angiography. You can see all these black lines, these are occluded retinal vessels with extensive ischemia and infarction. You can see that the macula is severely ischemic we ended with only 20/200 vision. In order for SLE to cause retinopathy, you need active disease not controlled medically.

Rheumatoid Arthritis

- A seropositive disease Which factor do you need in order to diagnose RA? Rheumatoid factor

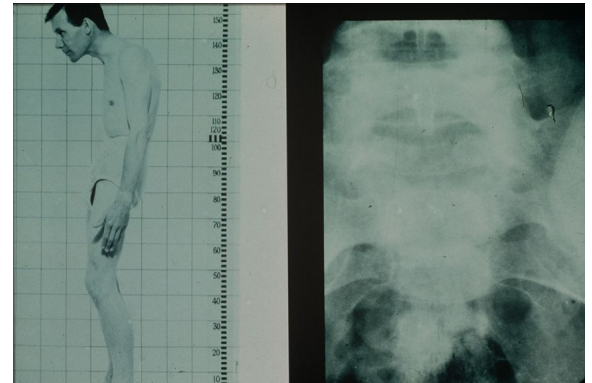
● **Ocular features:**

- K.C.S. Keratoconjunctivitis sicca “Dryness of the eye” (autoimmune disorder attacking the lacrimal gland). Positive Rose Bengal staining → K.C.S
- Scleritis important cause of sclerites and melting of the sclera if not controlled
- Keratitis.

		
<p>In the right picture: radial deviation, swollen fingers and nodules in the elbow.</p>	<p>*Melting of the sclera with “scleromalacia perforans” exposing the underlying different tissues *To control this type of inflammation we need drug like cyclophosphamide</p>	<p>Keratoconjunctivitis sicca (15%)</p> 

Ankylosing Spondylitis -Important-

- Seronegative
- X-rays of sacroiliac joints shows juxta-articular osteoporosis in the early stages .
- Acute recurrent **non-granulomatous** iridocyclitis
- This is an interesting disease for us. Whenever we see a **young male patient** in the ER having a **unilateral acute non-granulomatous anterior uveitis ankylosing Spondylitis** is the most important differential diagnosis, and to rule it out, **what kind of test should we do? HLA-B27 typing** is the most important test.



- This type of uveitis can happen in patients who are positive for HLA-B27. It can be systemic disease like: **ankylosing Spondylitis, psoriasis, Reiter's disease, IBD**. This type of uveitis can also occur without systemic disease.
- So whenever we see a young male patient with acute recurrent non-granulomatous (what do you mean non-granulomatous? You don't see mutton-fat precipitates which is sign of granuloma) iridocyclitis then we have to rule out ankylosing by HLA-B27 typing
- It's very important when we make a diagnosis like this to **refer** the patient because the patient can present for the first time to ophthalmology. So we have to refer the patient to rheumatology because at this stage if the patient has ankylosing spondylitis, you have to start **systemic treatment** early to prevent deformity.

- **Systemic manifestation:** Pain and stiffness in the lower back with limitation of movement, Calcification of spinal ligaments gives rise to a 'bamboo spine'.
- **Ocular manifestation:** Acute recurrent non- granulomatous anterior uveitis
- **Complications:** synchia. | - **Investigations:** HLA-B27-positive, X-ray: sacroiliac joints

Juvenile Chronic Arthritis

-Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis-

– The patterns of disease: **-important-**

1. Systemic onset: “Still’s disease” uveitis is extremely rare
2. Polyarticular onset: uveitis is fairly rare
3. **Pauciarticular onset:** about 20% develop uveitis at the onset, **4 or less joints are affected**

– In the western countries, this is the most common cause of uveitis in children.

– This is a disease of children. The eye can be affected by blinding inflammation. The problem here is that children cannot complain and the eye looks quite, but the chronic inflammation can destroy the eye. That’s why we have to know the **risk factors** for a child with juvenile chronic arthritis to develop uveitis **(1) being a girl (2) If arthritis developed before age of 4 3-positive antinuclear antibodies.**

– If the child presents with systemic onset “which is called still’s disease”: the child is presenting with fever, maculopapular rash, **lymphadenopathy and hepatosplenomegaly and pericarditis.** With this presentation, **uveitis is very rare.**

– Polyarticular onset: at presentation, 5 or more joints are affected and **still uveitis is rare.**

– **Uveitis is common with Pauciarticular onset.**

– Complications are common mainly glaucoma and cataract



– **Ocular manifestation:** Chronic non-granulomatous uveitis, Band keratopathy, Posterior synechiae.

– **Investigations:** Anti-ANA antibodies: will be positive in majority of pauciarticular type, Rheumatoid factor: positive in some polyarticular type, HLA-B27: it will be positive in some patient.

– **Treatment:** Topical and systemic Steroid and mydriatic agent to prevent posterior synechiae.

Behcet's Disease

– Anterior nongranulomatous uveitis

– Very common disease. In our recent publication, it was the third most common cause of uveitis here.

– It’s a disease of multisystem vasculitis. The major cause of **visual loss** in patients with Behcet's disease is recurrent episode of **vaso-occlusive retinal vasculitis –This is very important-**



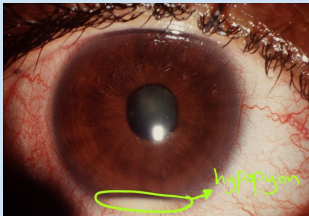
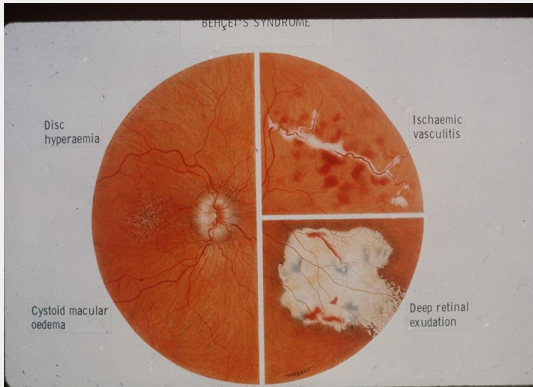

– Patients with Behcet's disease have very important involvement of **polymorphonuclear leukocytes** in the pathogenesis of the disease **–very important-**

– We see many patients who present with ulcers but after having recurrent episodes of **DVT.**

– How we make diagnosis of Behcet's disease? there is no specific lab study to diagnose Behcet's disease, the diagnosis is a **clinical** one based on specific signs and symptoms that were proposed by international Behcet's disease study group.

– The criteria required: **recurrent painful oral ulcer** (mouth ulcers should be in all patients. Why? Because if you look to epidemiological studies, mouth ulcers was the most common manifestation of the disease in about 97% of the patients). **In addition to the mouth ulcer, you need 2 of the followings: skin lesions, recurrent genital ulcers, eye manifestation –uveitis-**

– The country that has highest incidence of disease is Turkey. The disease is highly prevalent in what’s called silk road “الطريق اللّبي كان يسلكه تجار الحرير ما بين حوض البحر المتوسط والصين”. Is very common around mediterranean basin, China, Japan, Korea, Turkey and among us. You don’t see it in Caucasians.

			
<p>Aphthous ulcer is very painful and recurrent</p>	<p>Occlusive retinal vasculitis</p>	<p>Hypopyon due to polymorphonuclear leukocytes infiltrating into the anterior chamber</p>	
		<p>It causes retinitis as you can see here , and it's a blinding explosive disease. In the past, if you look into the literature they were telling whatever you do, the patient becomes blind. Now we have very effective treatment to stop blindness such as anti- TNF alpha agents "infliximab". Infliximab very effective and prevents blindness in this disease. it's the most effective drug available, it blocks an important pro-inflammatory cytokine called TNF alpha. Why is it very effective? Studies showed that if you analyze a sample from aqueous humor of patients with Behcet's disease, they have highest level of TNF-alpha which means that the inflammation is dependent on TNF-alpha in Behcet's disease.</p>	

- **Investigations:** HLA-B51 is positive | Pathergy test: pustule 24-48 hours after a sterile needle prick

Reiter's Syndrome

-Prof. Abu El-asrar skipped it-

- **A triad of:** Urethritis, Conjunctivitis, Seronegative arthritis
- **Ocular features:** Conjunctivitis, Keratitis, Iridocyclitis


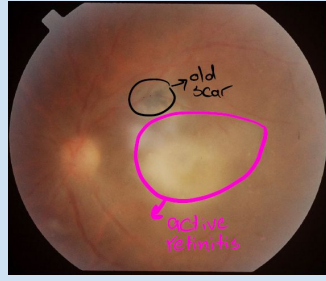
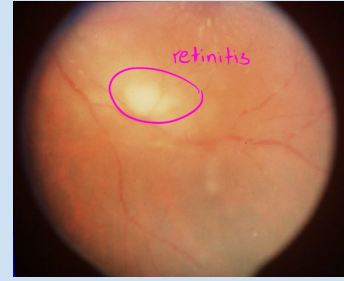
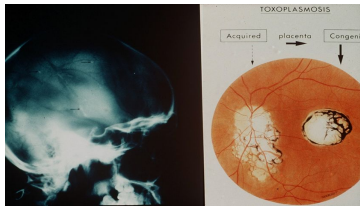
Sjogren's Syndrome

-Prof. Abu El-asrar skipped it-

- Autoimmune disease
- Involvement of: salivary glands, bronchial epithelium, vagina.
- Ocular features: K.C.S. Keratoconjunctivitis sicca "Dryness of the eye"
- Systemic manifestations: Dryness of skin and mouth and arthralgia and polyneuropathy.
- Investigation:
 1. Schirmer tear test
 2. Positive Rose Bengal staining (for keratoconjunctivitis sicca)
 3. ANA, RF positive
 4. Associated with HLA-B8/DR3

Toxoplasmosis

- Caused by *Toxoplasma gondii* after eating raw meat, obligatory intracellular protozoan parasite, can be:
 - o **Congenital:** Convulsions, chorioretinitis, intracranial calcification
 - o **Acquired:** Reactivation of old lesion, manifest mainly as necrotising, inflammation of retina (retinitis).
- The drugs we use to treat toxo-retinitis if it's needed to be treated: Clindamycin, Sulphonamides, Pyrimethamine (Daraprim) steroids, sulphadiazine, cotrimoxazole minocycline, azithromycin
- The fourth most common cause of uveitis in the country. It's an infectious cause of uveitis
- The severity of infection of baby depends on the timing of infection by mother. So if it happens **in the first trimester** what will happen to the baby? **Abortion**. If it happens in the **third trimester**, the baby will end up with **congenital toxoplasmosis**
- If the mother is infected for the **first time in her life**, the baby will become **infected** (no antibodies to protect the baby), but if she is **infected as a recurrent infection**, the baby is **protected**. That's why at the start of pregnancy they always order antibodies screening for toxoplasma. If the mother has IgG positive antibodies meaning that she was exposed before so there is no fear, but if the mother was seronegative at the beginning of pregnancy and then during pregnancy became positive then the risk is very high
- The acquired toxoplasmosis affects retina causing toxo-retinitis (**focal necrotizing retinitis** which usually located to adjacent scar)

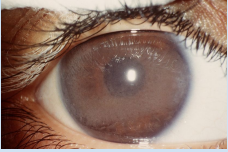

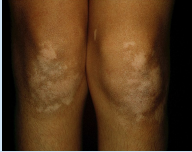
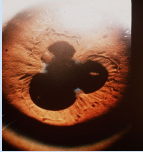


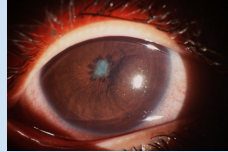

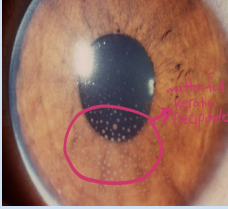




			
<p>This is an example of a patient with an old scar meaning that the patient had previous infection of the retina. Nearby the old scar is an active retinitis (this is a recurrent disease)</p>	<p>Another patient. You can see old scar and the active retinitis. Unfortunately this patient lost his central vision because it involved the center of the macula → very aggressive retinitis</p>	<p>Another patient. You can see the aggressive retinitis</p>	

- **Ocular manifestation:** posterior uveitis, Macular lesion, Retinochoroiditis "fluffy white with pigmented scar" Unilateral floaters, blurring and photophobia.
- **Investigations:** PCR and serology

Vogt-Koyanagi-Harada Syndrome

- Pigmented individuals
- Cutaneous signs, Neurological signs, Anterior uveitis, Posterior uveitis.
- This is the **most common** cause of **autoimmune uveitis** in the country | More common in **young women**.
- Autoimmune inflammatory response directed by T-lymphocytes attacking antigens related to **melanocytes** causing: **vitiligo** (melanocytes in skin), **alopecia & white hair** (melanocytes in the hair), **white lashes** (melanocytes in eyelashes), [Poliosis: absence or decrease melanin in head hair, eyebrows or eyelashes], **deafness and tinnitus** (melanocytes in the inner ear), **severe headache** (melanocytes in the meninges)

- It's a multisystem disease. It tends to affect pigmented individuals (you will not see it in Caucasians)
- The disease is blinding but if we treat the patient early in the course of the disease (**large dose systemic corticosteroid combined with immunomodulatory agent such as mycophenolate mofetil** "an anti-metabolite like azathioprine and methotrexate but much safer") then we can prevent all of these complications.
- You should know about this disease because the disease is very common and it's a multisystem disease.
- Big problem in the country that not many ophthalmologists know how to diagnose it early so when the patient comes with headache and inflammation of the optic nerve (optic nerve disc swelling), they make wrong diagnosis of pseudotumor cerebri and they refer patient to neurologist (a lot of investigations done to the patient: MRI, lumbar puncture) then the patient will become blind. So we have to have high index of suspicion for the diagnosis of Vogt-Koyanagi-Harada disease.

													
White lashes		Viteligo		Viteligo		Posterior synechiae		Posterior synechiae and cataract					
													
In the acute stage, the patient comes with exudative retinal detachment, because of inflammation within the choroid there is accumulation of the fluid under the retina. You can see the retina here is elevated		It can cause mutton-fat Keratic precipitates because it's a granulomatous disease		Starry sky appearance		Another example of exudative retinal detachment		Right pic: Sunset glow fundus or orange fundes "if VKH is not treated" → it affects the retinal pigment layer					

- **Ocular manifestation:** Bilateral granulomatous anterior uveitis, Bilateral multifocal posterior uveitis, Dalen-Fuchs nodules, 'sunset glow' fundus, Mutton - fat keratic precipitates, chronic manifestation, Acute phase manifested as inflammation of the choroid with exudative retinal detachment(accumulation of fluids under the retina)

- **Investigations:**

1. Associated HLA-DR1 and HLA-DR4
2. Lumbar puncture if diagnosis uncertain; CSF shows a transient lymphocytic pleocytosis, and melanin-containing macrophages.

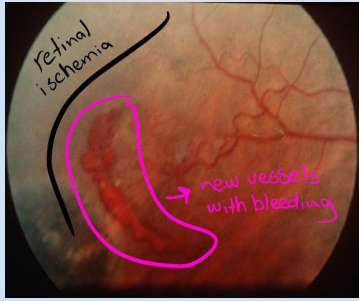
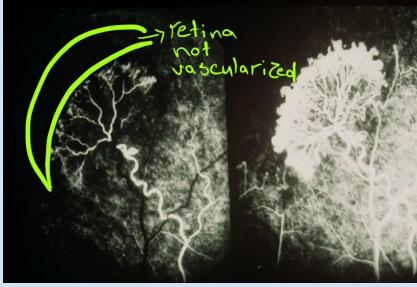
- **Treatment:** High-dose steroid or infliximab in case of steroid resistance

- **Complications:** Glaucoma, Cataract, Choroidal neovascularization, Subretinal fibrosis, Retinal atrophy.

Sickle Cell Disease

● Ocular features:

- Conjunctival comma-shaped capillaries
- Retinal changes: arterial occlusions, neovascular patterns, capillary closure
- Vitreous hemorrhage
- Sickle cell disease affects retina mainly and the sickling of the red blood cells will cause retinal ischemia (it will occlude peripheral retinal circulation causing retinal ischemia then you will have new vessels which can lead to bleeding looks like "Sea fans")
- Major complications of sickle cell disease: peripheral retinal ischemia- neovascularization- vitreous hemorrhage- traction retinal detachment
- To prevent bleeding you have to apply laser (scattered laser to the area of retinal ischemia)
- SCD retinopathy is differentiated from Diabetic retinopathy by the location of the new vessels, DR will be around the center, while SCD retinopathy in the periphery.

 <p>Retinal ischemia</p> <p>new vessels with bleeding</p>	<p>Occlusion of peripheral retinal circulation causing ischemia. You can see new vessels with bleeding. To prevent bleeding you have to apply laser (scattered laser to the area of retinal ischemia)</p>	 <p>Retina not vascularized</p>	<p>Fluorescein angiography showing retina is not vascularized</p> <p>Picture on the left is early fluorescein angiogram shows massive ischemia, and on the right is delayed fluorescein angiogram which shows a big patch of complete filling of the new vessels with leakage around it (new vascular tufted filled with fluorescein)</p>
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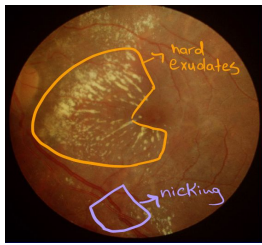
Hypertensive Retinopathy

● Keith Wagener grouping:

- Stage I & II: arteriolar attenuation (silver wire and copper wire in the artery), increased light reflex
- State III: Cotton wool spots, hard exudates, hemorrhages, macular star, retinal edema
- Stage IV: all of the above + edema of the optic disc

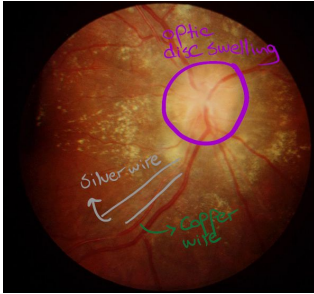
● Ischemic choroidal infarcts (Elsching's spots):

- Retinal arterial macroaneurysm, ischemic optic neuropathy
- As a compensatory phenomenon for high blood pressure, the first thing to happen is that the retinal arterioles become smaller (they attenuate) then the walls of arterioles become thicker so it will reflect more light this is will create what we call "copper wire and silver wire arteries". Then we see occlusion of retinal arterioles which appears as cotton wool spots and exudates then we can see hemorrhages as a result of severe hypertension and macular edema then the last stage we expect to see edema of the optic nerve head

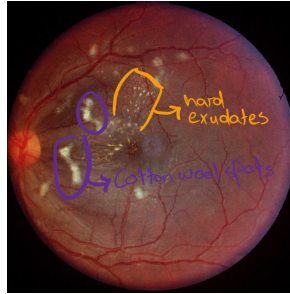


This is another good example of hypertensive retinopathy. Look to the hard exudates, but what is special about this hard exudates compared to diabetes? Here it's arranged **radially** and this is pathognomonic for hypertensive retinopathy you don't see it in other conditions.

You can see the artery with area of silver wiring and this is where the artery is crossing over the vein. There is a vein under the artery the vein becomes attenuated and this is called nicking "nipping" because the artery is becoming so thick and hard compressing on the vein under the artery causing this nipping Here you can see the silver wire arteries, copper wires and radially arranged hard exudates



Hypertensive retinopathy. You can see optic nerve head swelling, look at the arteriole here you see the color here is white (this is what they call silver wire) and the rest is like copper wires (called copper wire)



This is another young patient with pheochromocytoma. There are many cotton wool spots and you can see the radial distribution of hard exudates

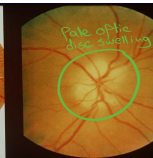


Giant Cell Arteritis

- Over 60 years, Females, smoking, low body mass index and early menopause | Large & medium sized vessels.
- Sudden visual loss due to anterior ischemic optic neuropathy **profound unilateral visual loss**.
- Amaurosis fugax **which means recurrent attacks of loss of vision**.
- Central retinal artery occlusion, cotton wool spots, anterior segment necrosis, oculomotor palsies (including a **pupil-involving**), cortical blindness.

You can see gangrene of scalp because of temporal arteritis
This is what happens: patient can present to the ER with blindness in one eye (no light perception). And when we look to the optic nerve we see white optic nerve and the margins are ill-defined "means it's swollen" and we call this **pale disc swelling** 'chalky white' edematous disc "characteristic feature" and this is a sign of ischemic optic neuropathy because the disease will cause occlusion of the small blood vessels that supply the optic nerve

Admission is required in such patients, because it's a life threatening disease, and this might be the first manifestation



This is another example. Patient presented to the ER and you can see white disc.
In this situation we always admit the patient, we need to confirm the diagnosis so we do ESR (high ESR) and we do temporal artery biopsy then if the diagnosis is confirmed you have to give the patient a large doses of systemic corticosteroids. Why? To protect the other eye because in the affected eye you cannot reverse blindness
We do an urgent temporal artery biopsy but if the patient has high ESR and C-reactive protein we can start systemic corticosteroids immediately



- **Non-arteritic anterior ischaemic optic neuropathy (NAION):** more common, caused by occlusion of the short posterior ciliary arteries resulting in partial or total infarction of the optic nerve head. Patient complains of sudden painless monocular visual loss; this is frequently discovered on awakening, suggesting a causative role for nocturnal hypotension.
- **Arteritic anterior ischaemic optic neuropathy (AAION):** Caused by giant cell arteritis (GCA). About 50% of patients with GCA have polymyalgia rheumatica (PMR) "pain and stiffness in proximal muscle groups, typically the shoulders and hips, that is worse on waking, scalp tenderness and jaw claudication".