



Lupus and the Eye

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Objectives

- Recognize rheumatic diseases associated with inflammatory eye disease
- Understand treatment options for inflammatory eye disease

Discoid Lupus Erythematosus of the Eyelid



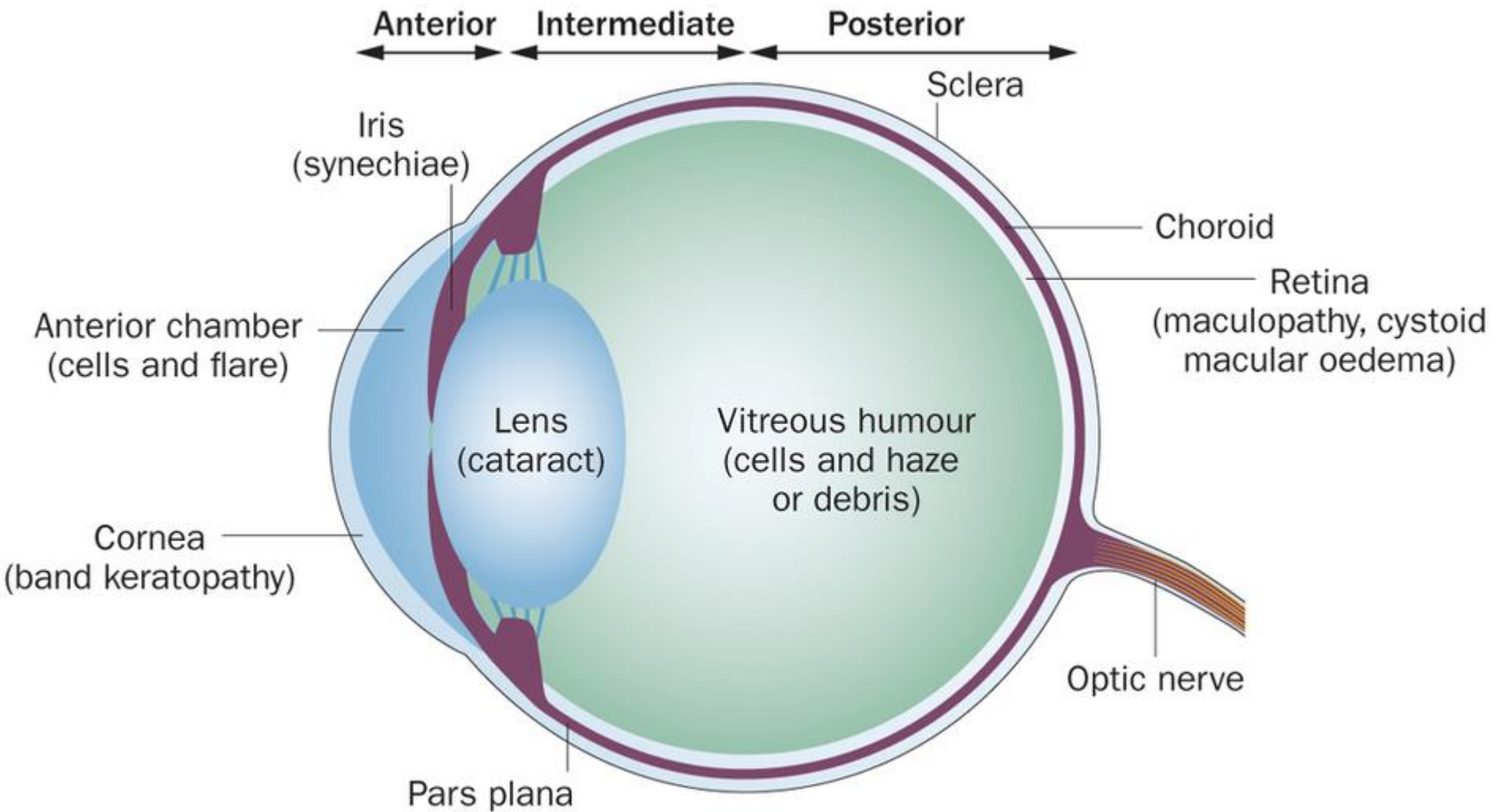
Immune Mediated Inflammatory Eye Conditions

- Episcleritis
- Scleritis
- Uveitis
- Peripheral ulcerative keratitis



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RE1MvRmWg7I>

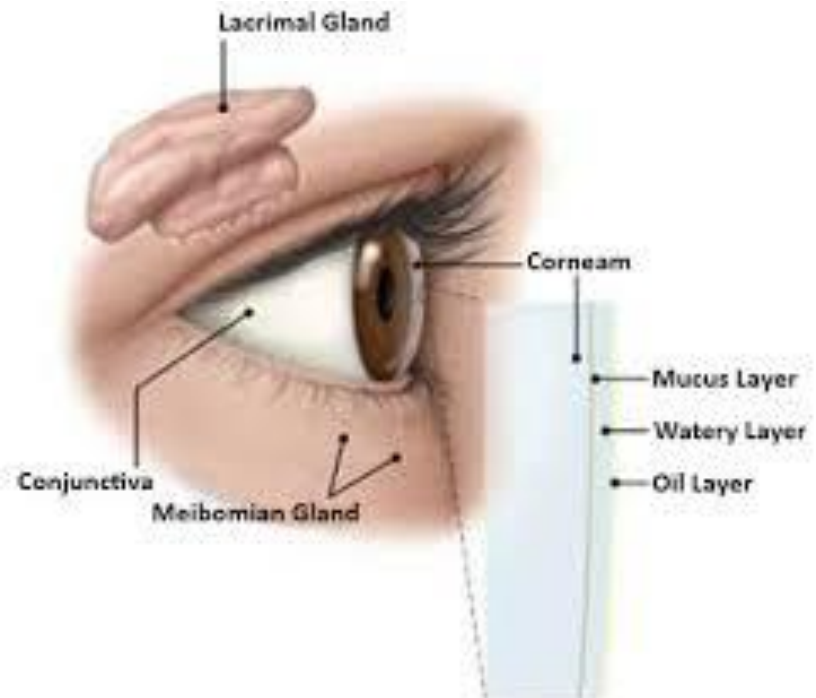
Anatomy of the Eye



Dry Eye Syndrome

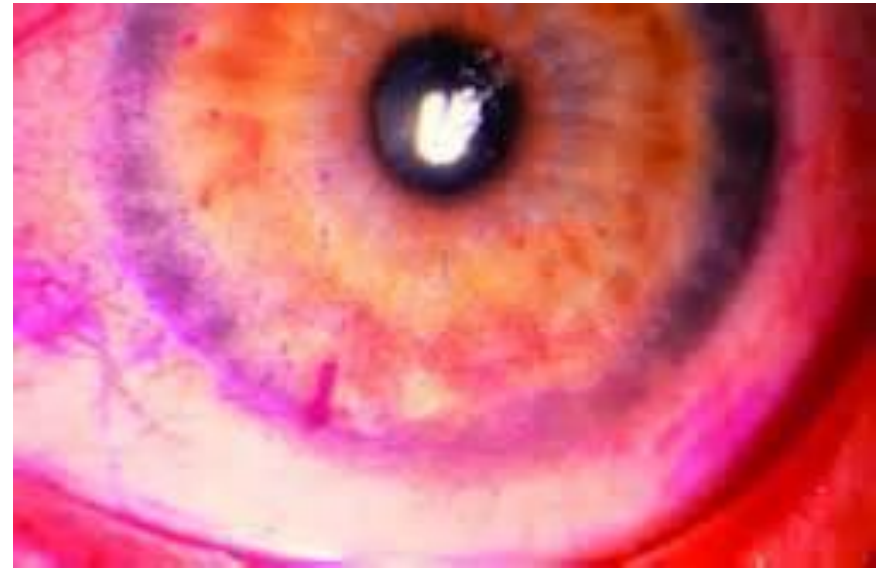
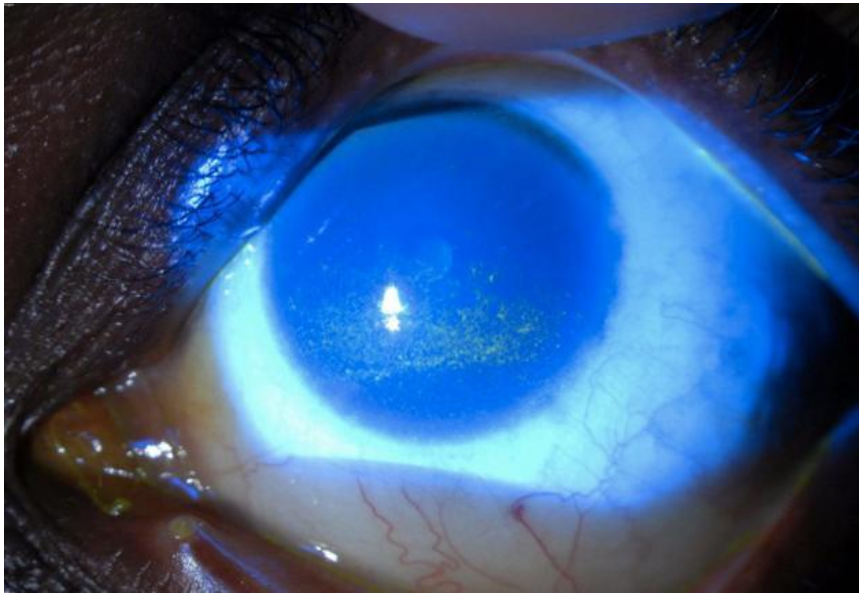


- Most common ocular feature of lupus
- Often associated with secondary Sjögren
- Irritation
- Redness
- Reduced tear film
- Corneal changes



Sjögren's and Secondary Sjögren's

- Sicca symptoms
- Keratoconjunctivitis sicca



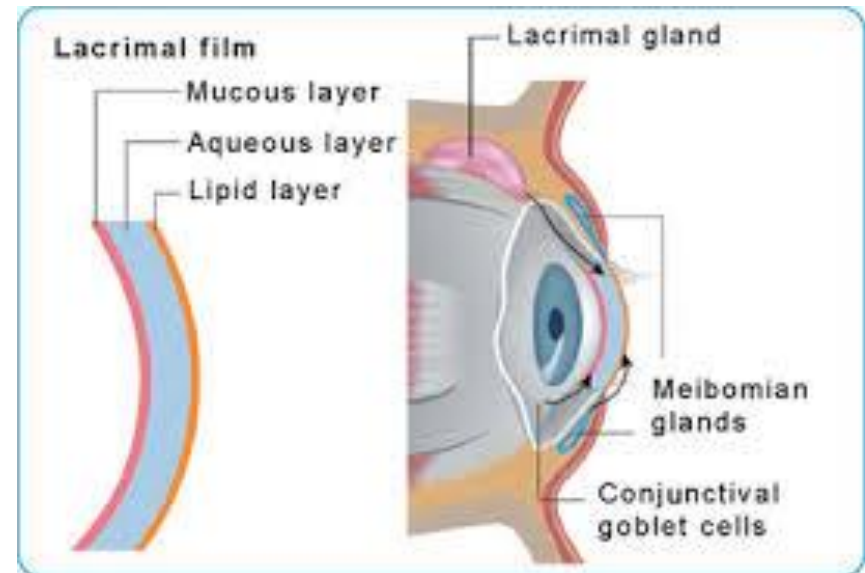
Treatment

- Natural tears
- Cyclosporine A
- Pilocarpine
- Cevimeline

- Punctal occlusion

Meibomian Gland Dysfunction

- Most common cause of dry eyes
- Sebaceous gland at the rim of the eyelids
- Secretes oily substance that prevents eye's tear film
- Blepharitis



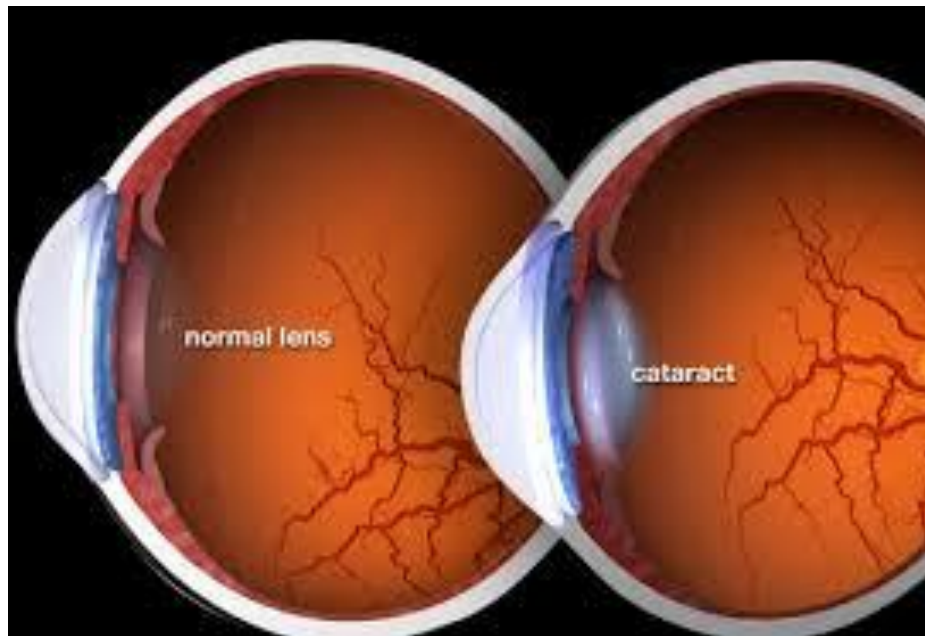
Treatment of Posterior Blepharitis

- Warm compresses
- Lid scrubs
- Flax seed oil

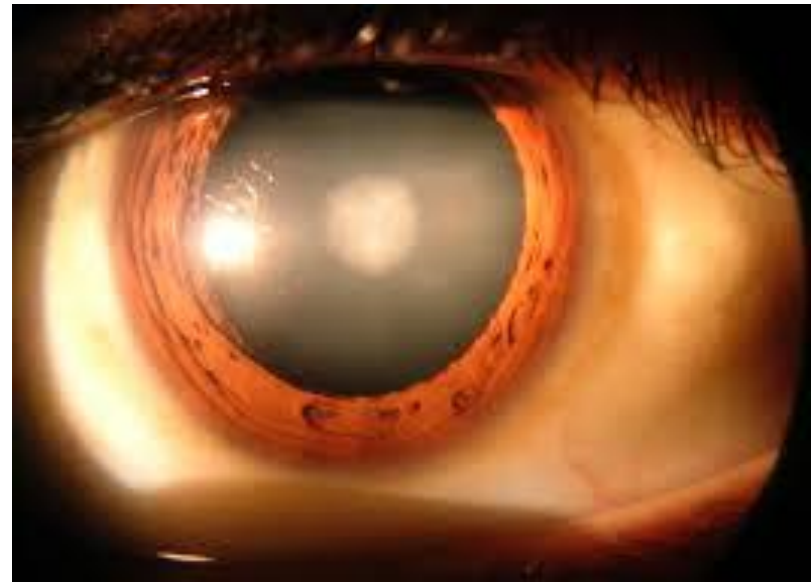


Cataracts

- Opacity of the lens of the eye
- Potential side effect of steroid use



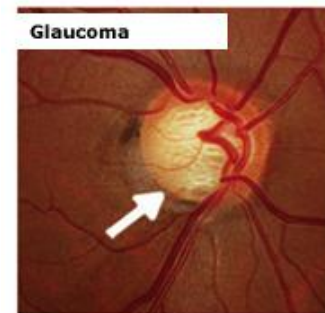
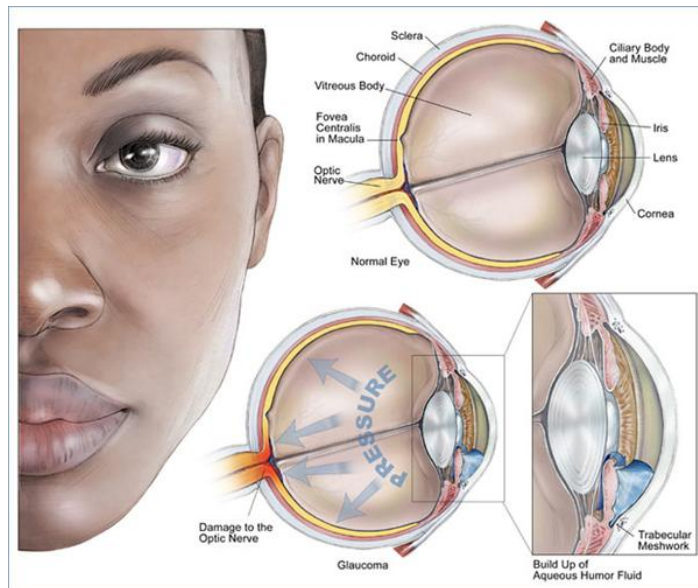
Webmed.com



Wikipedia.org

Glaucoma

- High intra-ocular pressure
- A potential side effect of steroids
- Open angle
 - Generally painless



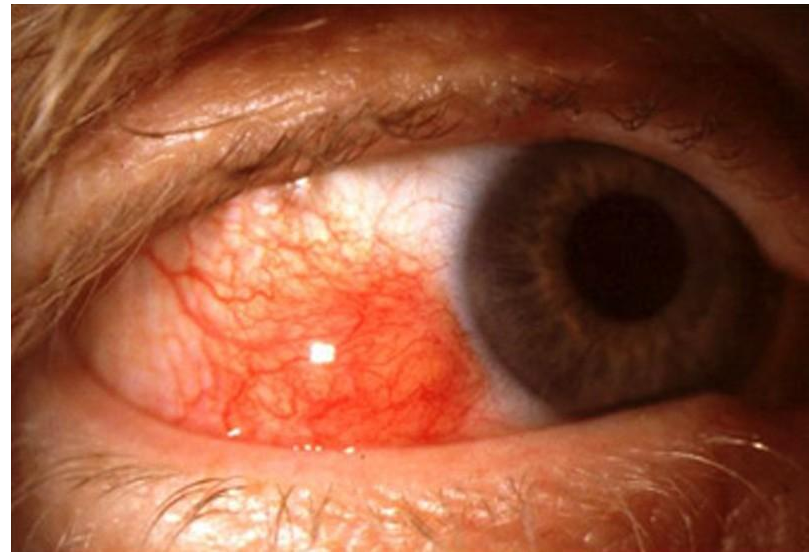
A
Optic disk photograph



B
Retinal nerve fibre layer photograph

Episcleritis

- Mostly not associated with systemic disease
- Typically self limited
- Red eye, not painful
- Seronegative spondylarthritis
- ANCA associated vasculitis
- Topical NSAIDs, steroids
- Oral NSAIDs



Scleritis

- Half associated with underlying systemic illness
- 90% cases involve the anterior portion
- Severe constant boring pain

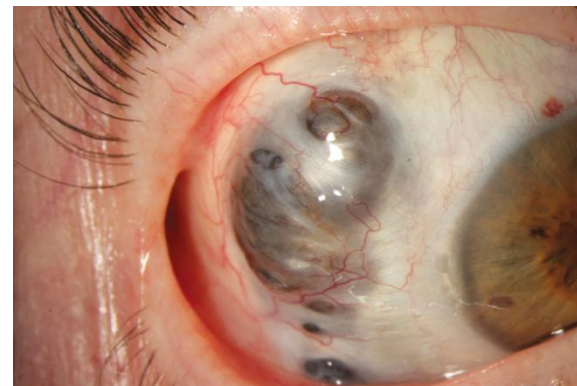
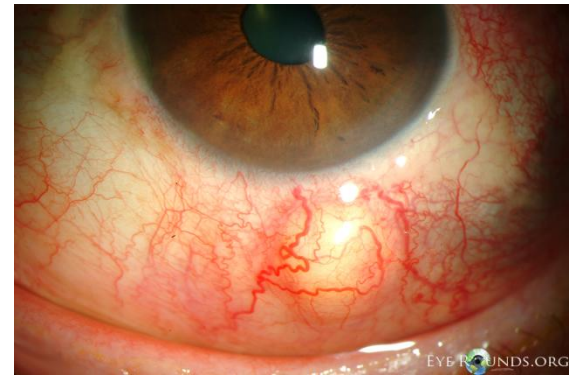
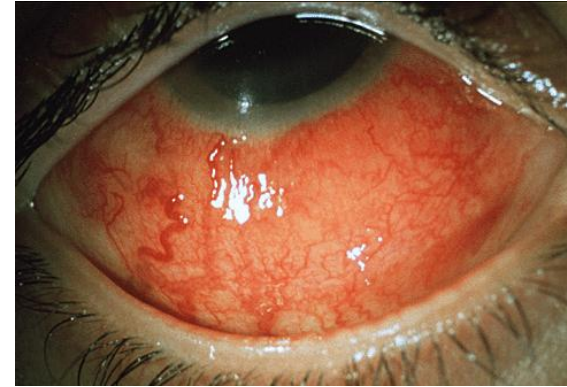
- RA
- Granulomatosis with polyangiitis
- IBD
- SLE

- HSV, HIV, Lyme



Anterior Scleritis

- Diffuse anterior
 - Most common, least severe
 - 50% of cases
- Nodular anterior
 - 20-40% cases
 - Recurrent in 50%
- Necrotizing anterior
 - Women, older age



eyepathologist.com

webeve.ophth.uiowa.edu

Nature Reviews Rheumatology 10,
108–116 (2014) doi:10.1038/nrrheum.2013.185

Peripheral Ulcerative Keratitis

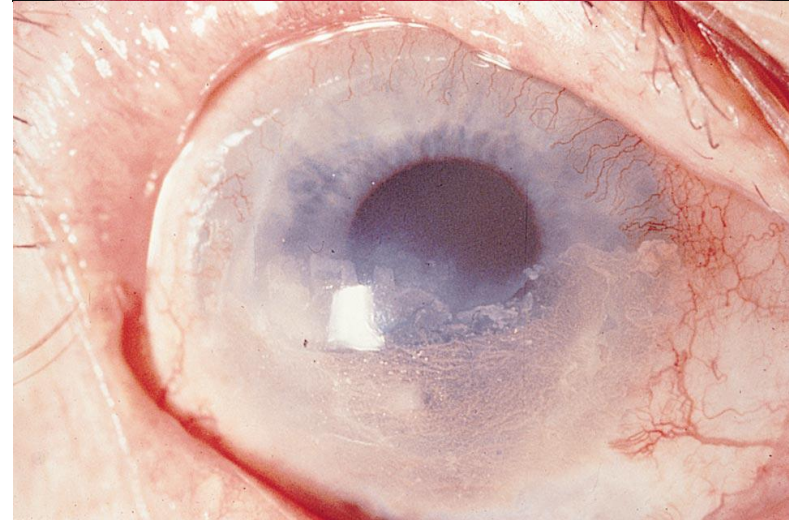
- Most common form of corneal melt in RA
- Non-specific symptoms
- Other associations:
 - GPA, PAN
 - SLE, Sjögren, Crohn's
 - Acne rosacea, cicatricial pemphigoid, Stevens-Johnson syndrome



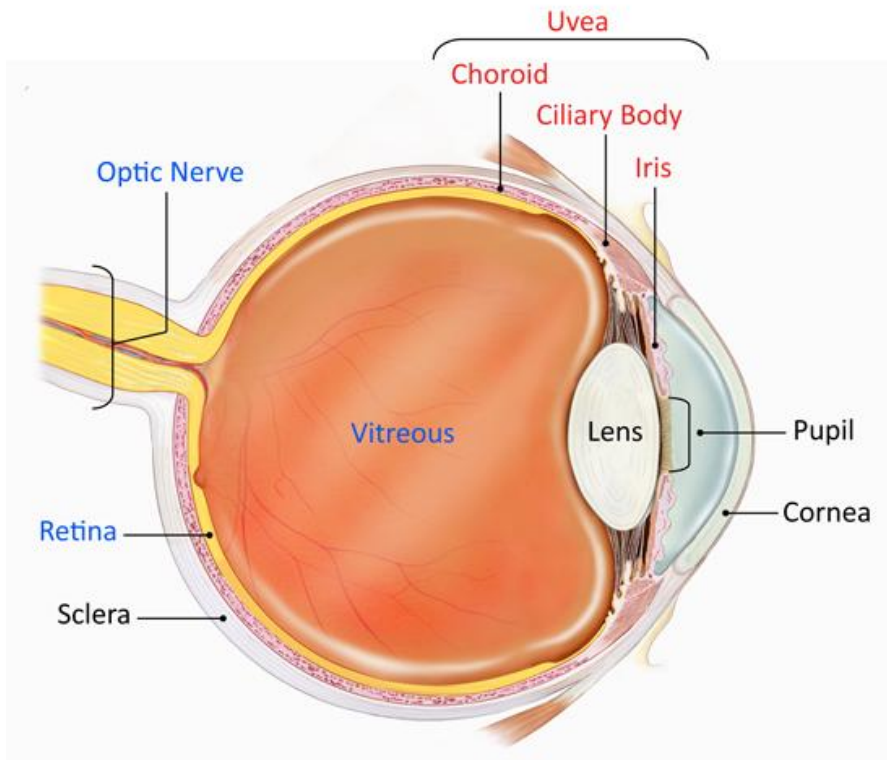
Valentin H et al. Medicine 2014;93:1760

PUK

- Crescent shaped area of inflammation at the margin of the corneal stroma
- Can be resistant to treatment
 - Cyanoacrylate glue
 - Conjunctival flap
 - Systemic treatment



Uveitis

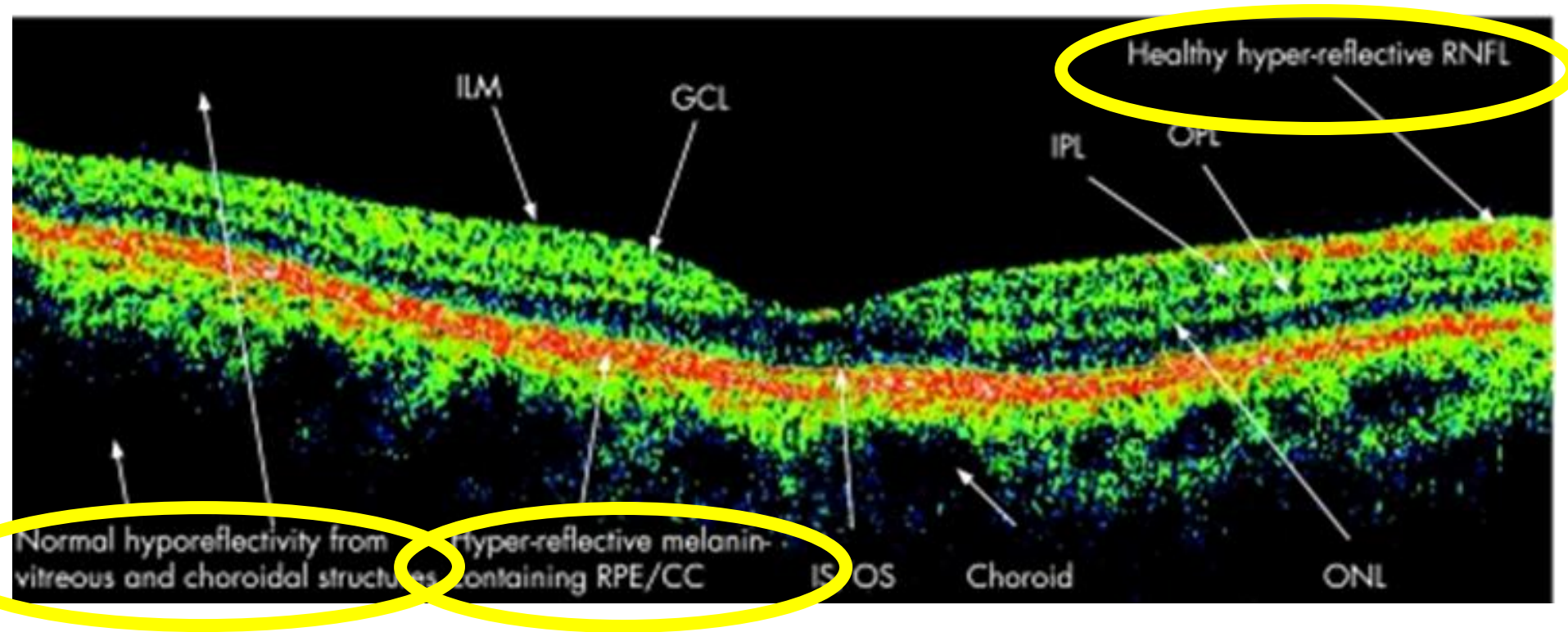


- Inflammation of the uvea
- Iritis=uveitis
- Iridocyclitis-uveitis with ciliary body involvement
- Pain, redness
- Anterior chamber leukocytes by slit lamp exam
- 10% blindness

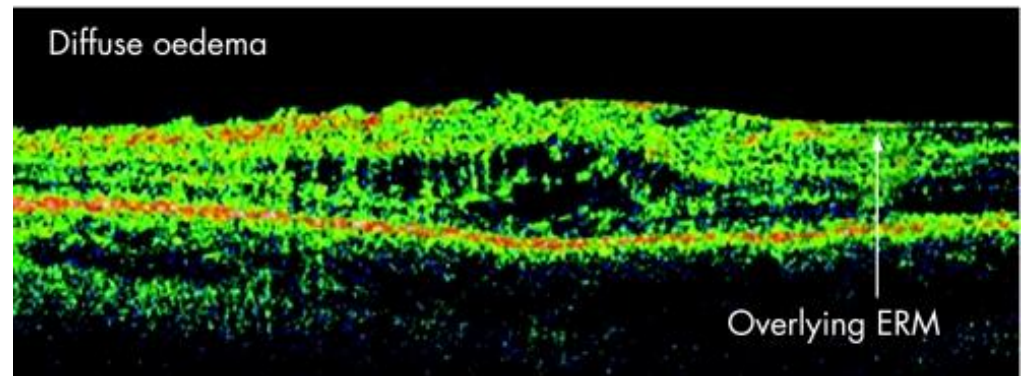
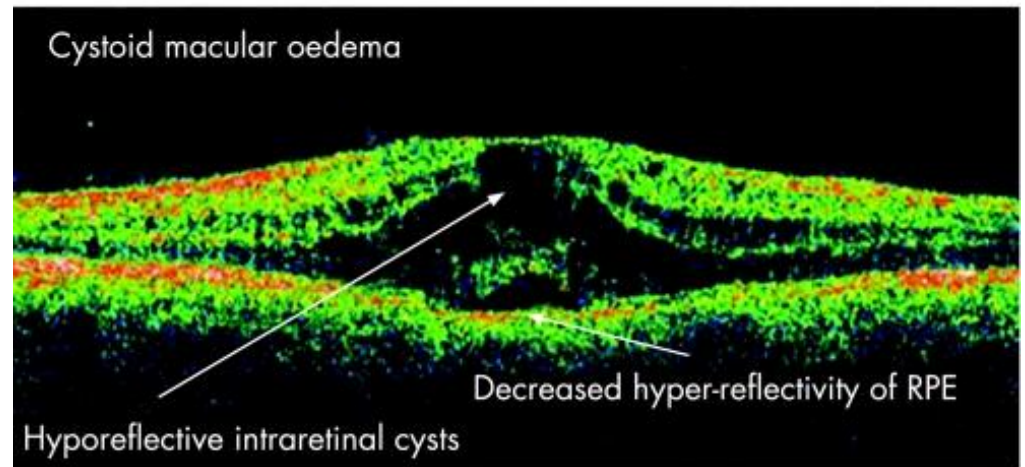
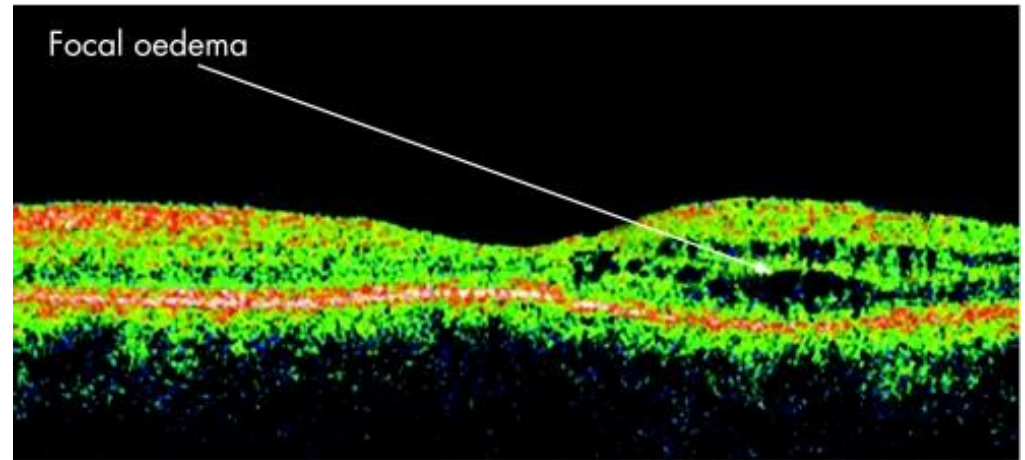
Techniques Used

- Slit lamp exam
- Fluorescein angiography (FA)
 - Macular edema
 - Choroidal neovascularization
 - Retinal detachment
- Optical coherence tomography (OCT)
- Ultrasound

Normal OCT

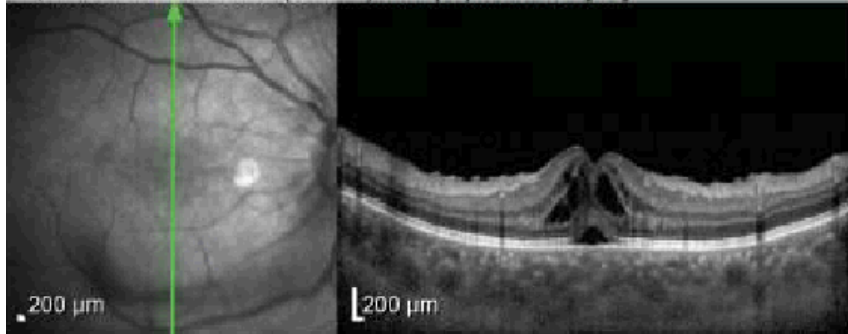


OCT

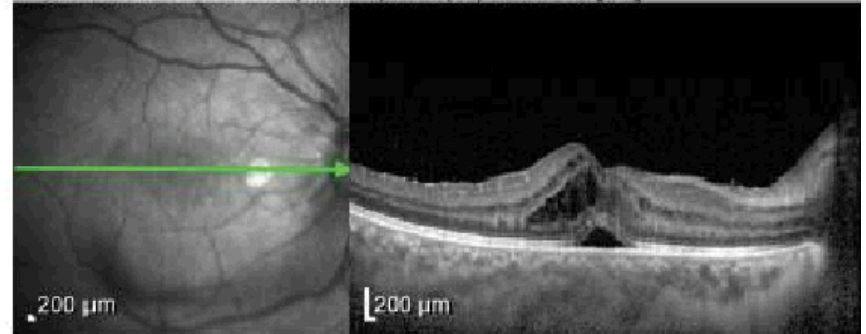


OCT Results

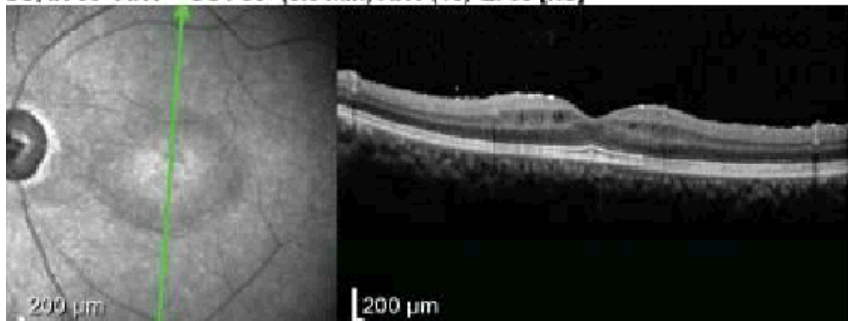
OD, IR 30° ART + OCT 30° (8.7 mm) ART (21) Q: 29 EDI [HS]



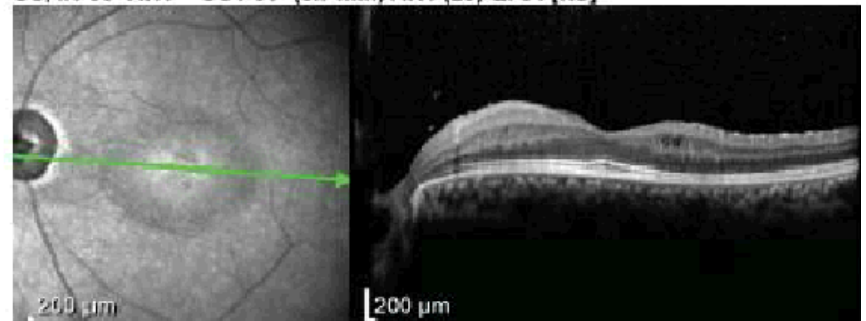
OD, IR 30° ART + OCT 30° (8.7 mm) ART (20) Q: 26 EDI [HS]



OS, IR 30° ART + OCT 30° (8.6 mm) ART (18) Q: 35 [HS]



OS, IR 30° ART + OCT 31° (8.7 mm) ART (20) Q: 34 [HS]



Treatment of Inflammatory Eye Disease

- Eminence based, not evidence based
- Trial and error
- Few open label trials and meta-analysis
- Treatment, in large part, borrowed from treatment of rheumatoid arthritis

Treatments

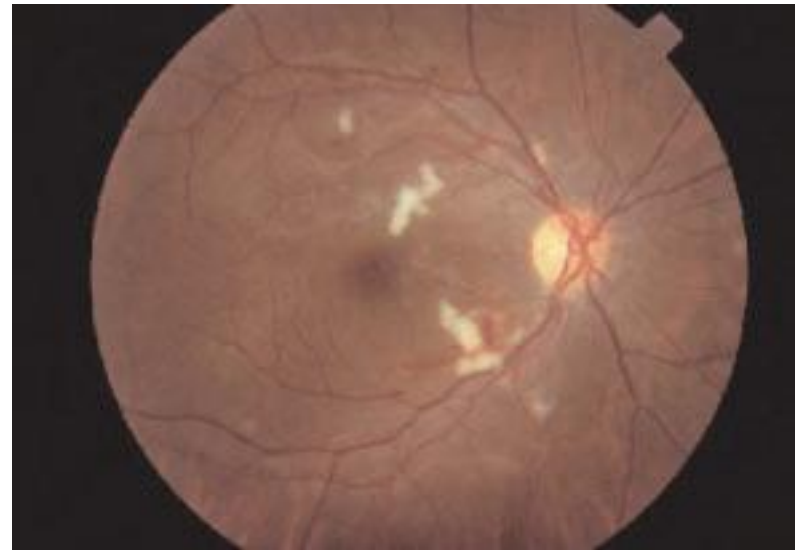
- Topical NSAIDs
- Cycloplegics
- Topical steroids
- Steroids
 - IV
 - PO
 - Sub-tenon
- Steroid-sparing medications
- Surgical options

Complications of Uveitis

- Glaucoma
- Cataracts
- Macular edema
- Detached retina

Retinal Retinopathy

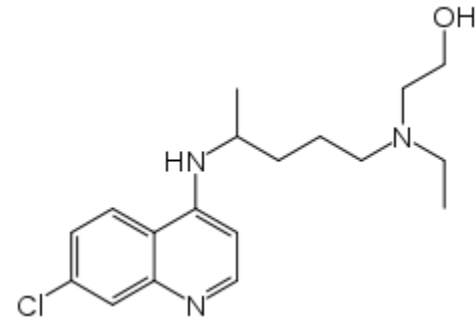
- Cotton-wool spots
- Perivascular hard exudates
- Retinal hemorrhages



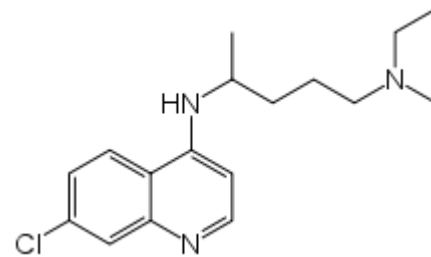
Chloroquine

- Anti-malarial
- Used to treat SLE, cutaneous lupus, RA
- Nausea, headache
- Retinal toxicity

- 6.5mg/kg



hydroxychloroquine



chloroquine

Hydroxychloroquinne

- Skin
- Joints
- Decreases flare rate
- Role in preventing renal and CNS lupus
- Safe in pregnancy
- Reduces cardiovascular risk factors
 - DM
 - Hyperlipidemia
- May reduce blood clots in anti-phospholipid syndrome
- Improves survival rate



Mechanism of Action

- Inhibit antigen processing and presentation
 - Alkalinization of endosomes and lysosomes
- Blocks toll-like receptors (TLR 3, 7, 9) that recognizes DNA containing immune complexes
- Produces interferon and causes maturity of antigen presenting cells that activate T cells

HCQ-Adverse Events

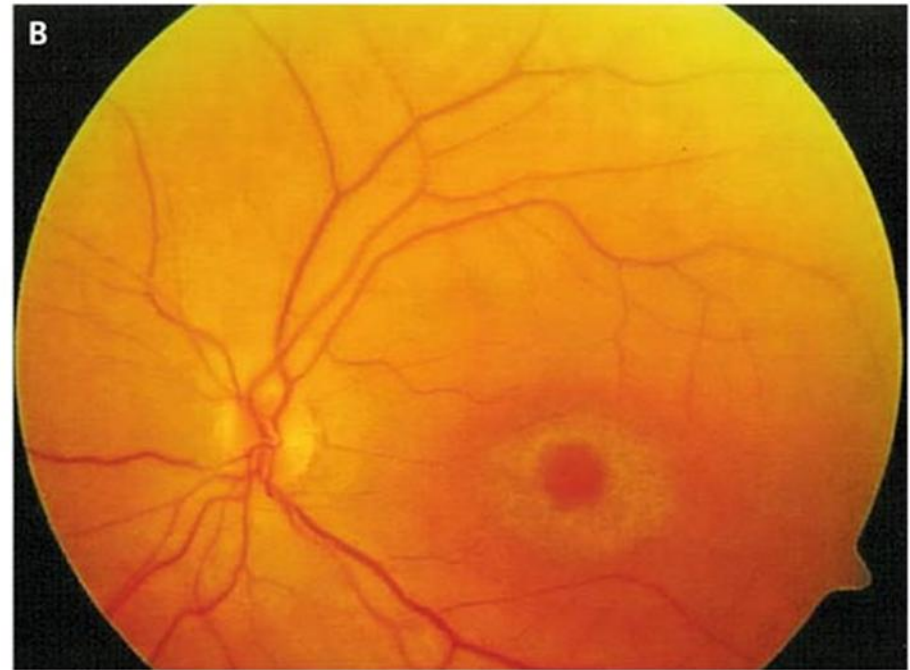
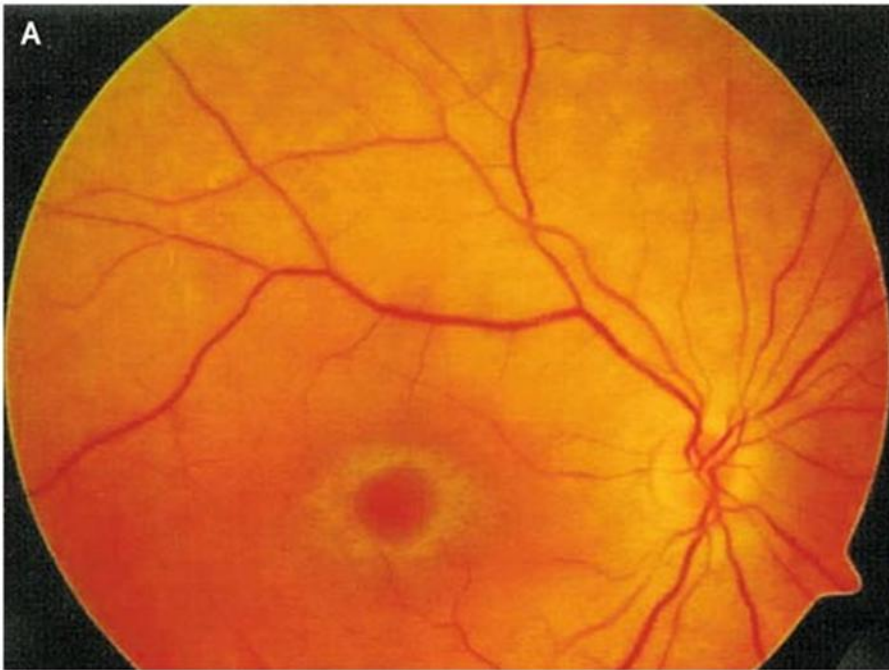
- Serious side effects are very rare
- Nausea
- Headache
- Skin rashes

The Eye and HCQ

- Corneal deposits
 - Does not affect vision
 - Can create transient halos or heightened light sensitivity
 - Reversible
- Retinopathy

Mechanism of Toxicity

- Anti-malarials bind to melanin in the retinal pigment epithelium, causing cytotoxic effects, first around the fovea.



Retinopathy

- Risk is low in the first 5 to 7 years of exposure
- Toxicity exceeds 1% after that time
- Real body weight predicted risk better than ideal body weight
- Prevalence less than 2% within first 10 years of use
- Increases to 20% after 20 years of use

Risk Factors for Retinal Toxicity

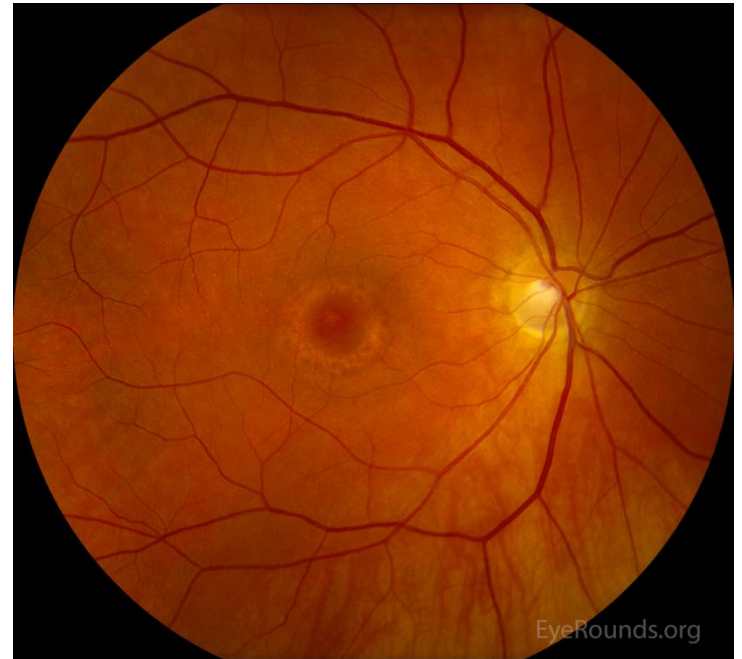
- Exceeding daily dosage of 6.5mg/kg
- Obesity
- Duration of use longer than 5 years
- Kidney or liver impairment
- Age greater than 60 years
- Preexisting retinal disease
- Concomitant use of Tamoxifen

Earliest Retinal Signs of Toxicity

- Macular edema
- Increased pigmentation
- Increased granularity
- Loss of foveal reflex

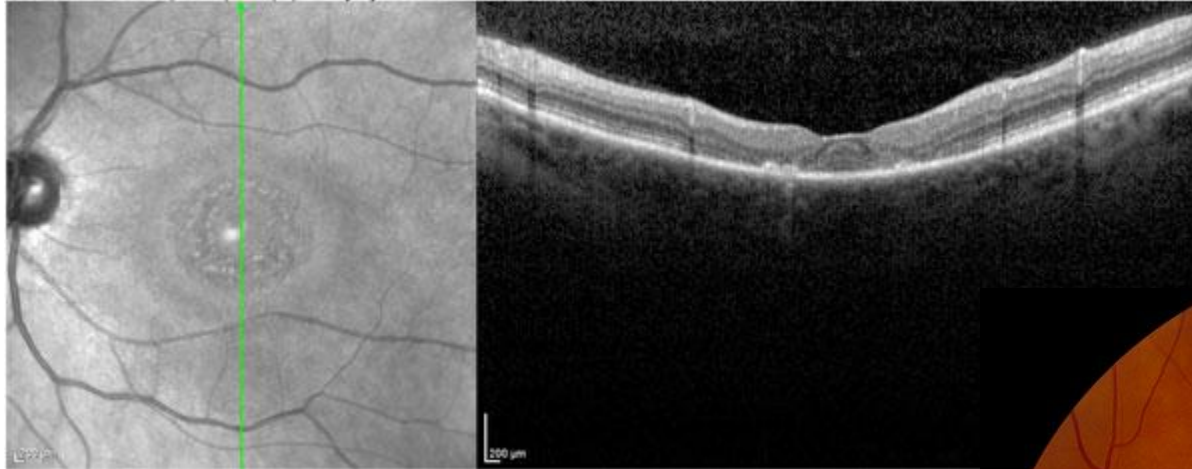
Symptoms of Toxicity

- Central visual loss
 - Reading difficulties
 - Reduced color vision
 - Central scotoma
- Maculopathy
 - Disturbance of retinal pigment epithelium
 - Bull's eye



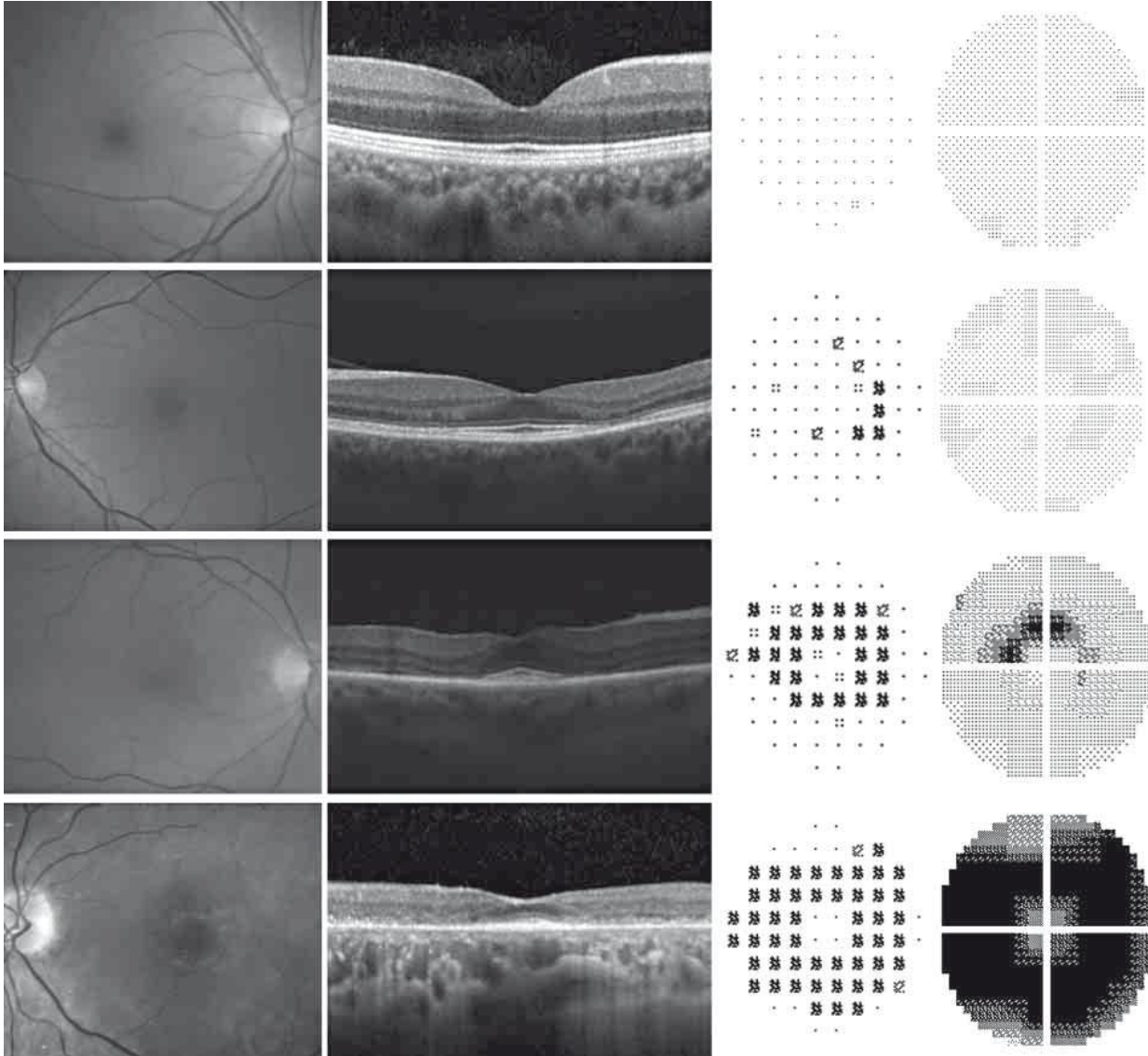
Bull's Eye Maculopathy

IR 30° ART + OCT 30° (Ø 1 mm) ART (22) Q: 29 [HS]



EyeRounds.org

Coherence Tomography (OCT)



Screening

- Baseline eye exam within first year of use
 - Dilated retinal exam, visual field testing
- Follow-up exams range from every 6 months to 5 years depending on risks
- Exam every year after 5 years of therapy

AUWolfe F, Marmor MF. Arthritis Care Res (Hoboken). 2010;62(6):775

Melles RB, Marmor MF. JAMA Ophthalmol. 2014;132(12):1453.