

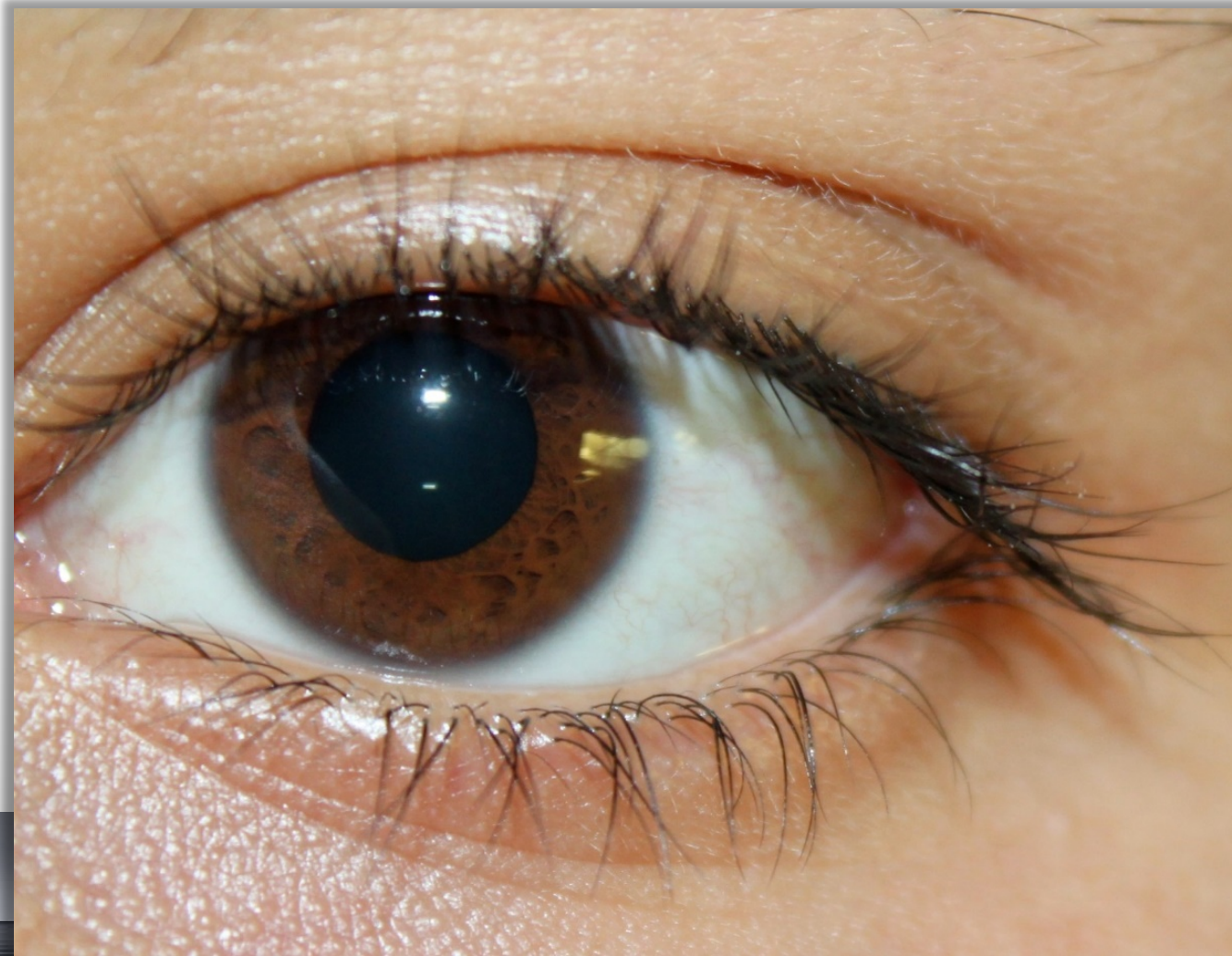
# Eye Anatomy & Function

**Dr Jie Zhang PhD**  
**Senior Research Fellow**

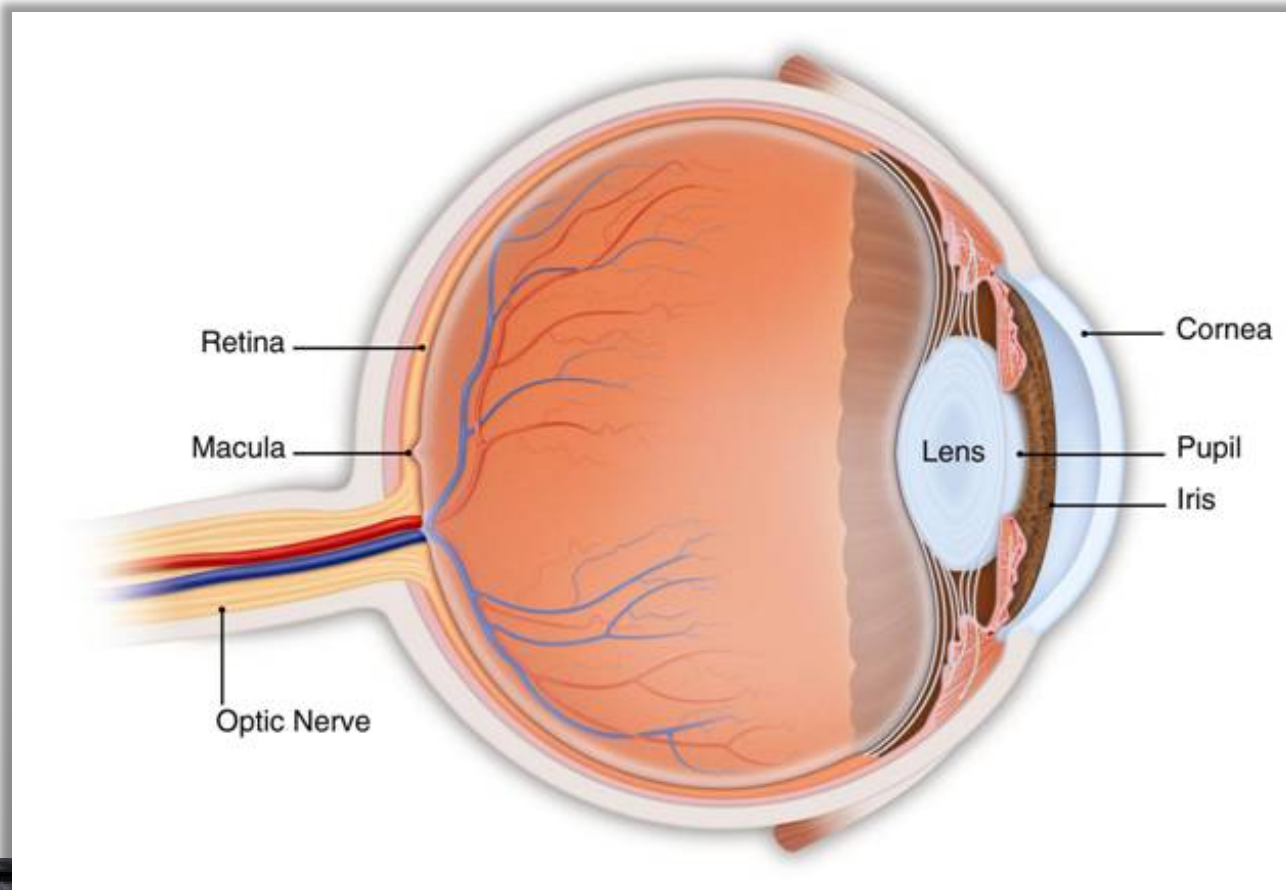
Associate Professor Bruce Hadden  
LLD, FRACS, FRANZCO



# External ocular appearance



# Key Eye Functions



- Transmits and refracts light from the front to the back of the eye
  - *Transparent light path*
  - *Includes structures that bend light (refract)*
- Converts light energy into action potentials transmitted to brain

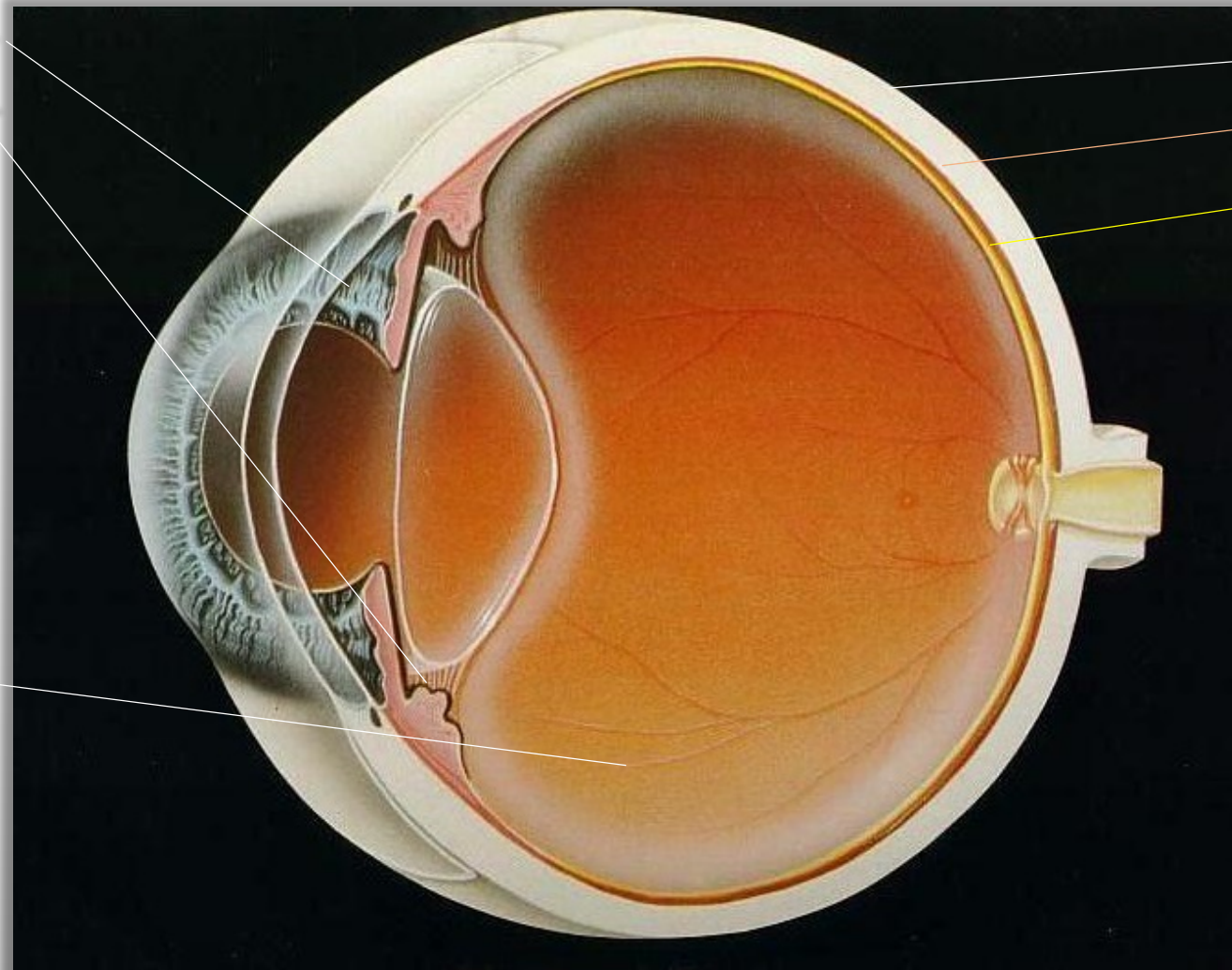


# Layers and chambers of the eye

Anterior Chamber  
Posterior Chamber

Fibrous Tunic  
Vascular Tunic  
Nervous Tunic

Vitreous Chamber

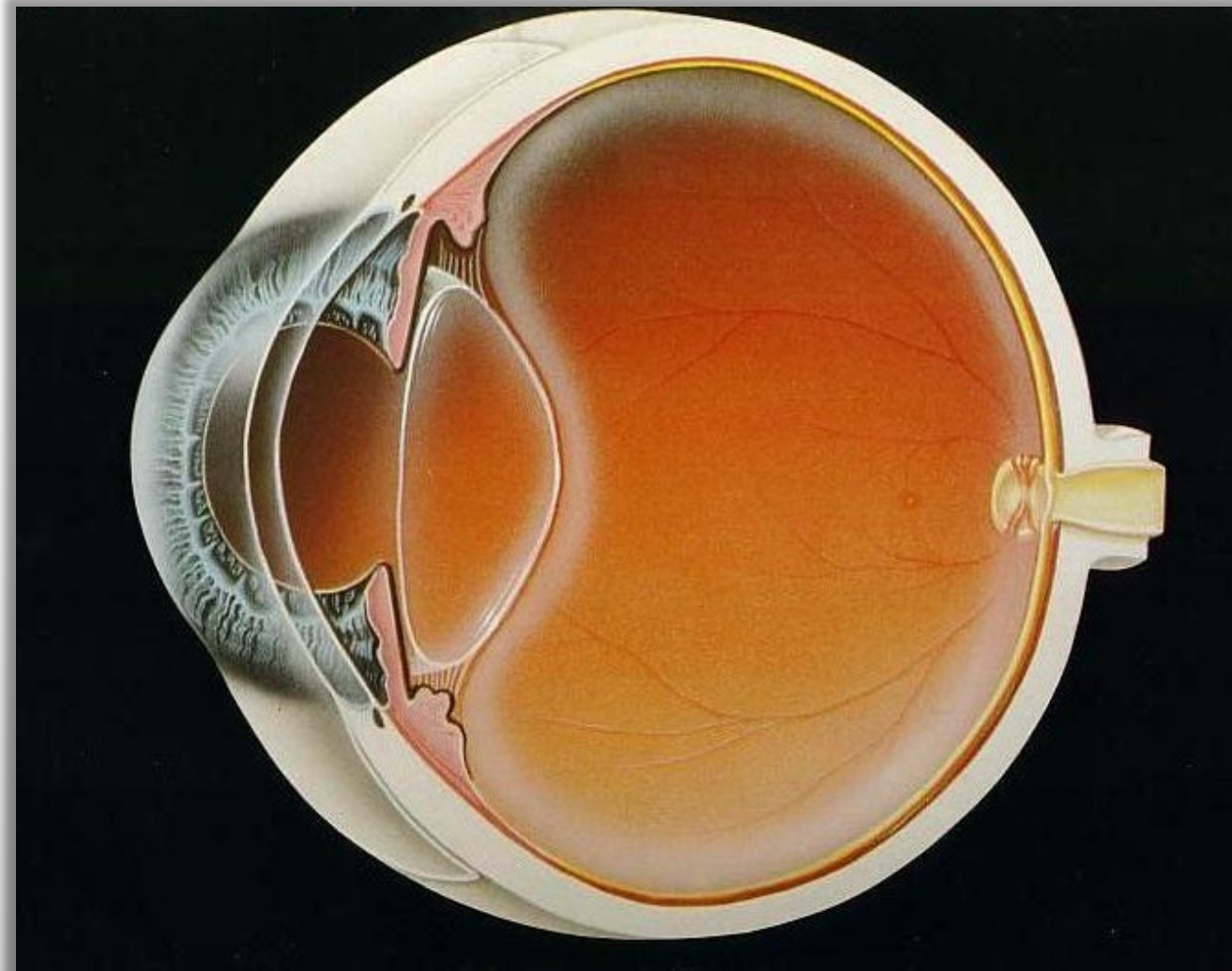


# Defining ocular segments

## **Anterior segment:**

Structures in front of vitreous:

Cornea,  
iris,  
ciliary body,  
and lens

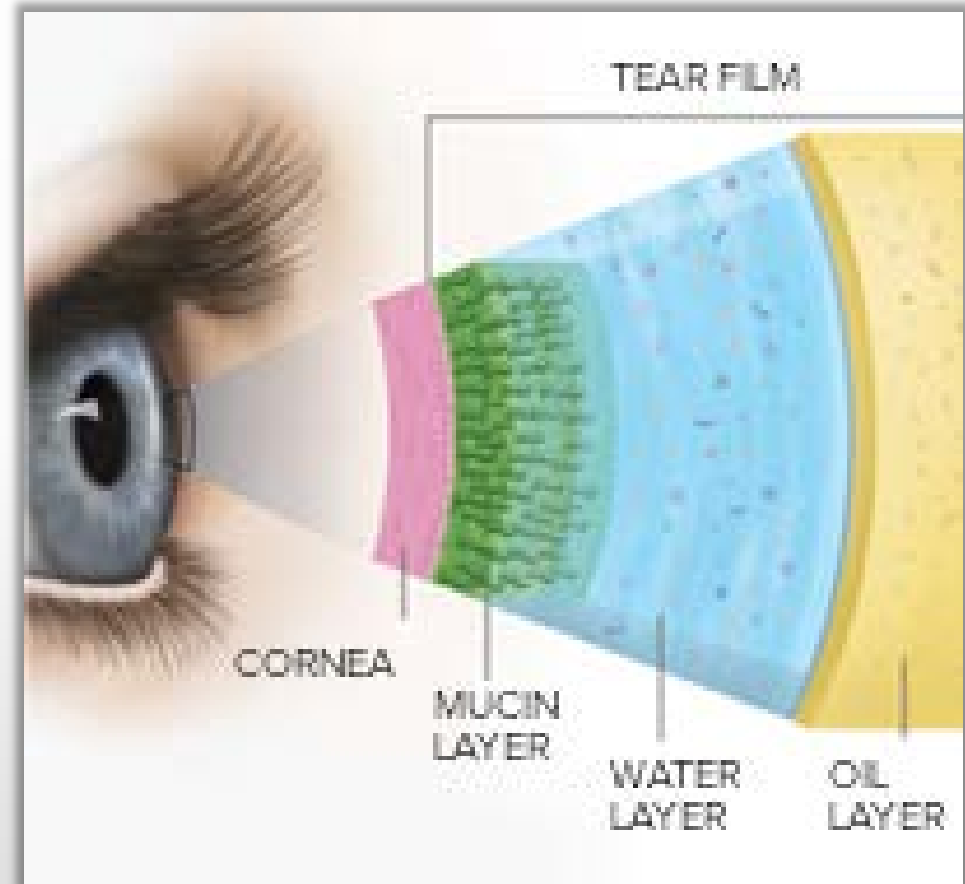


## **Posterior segment:**

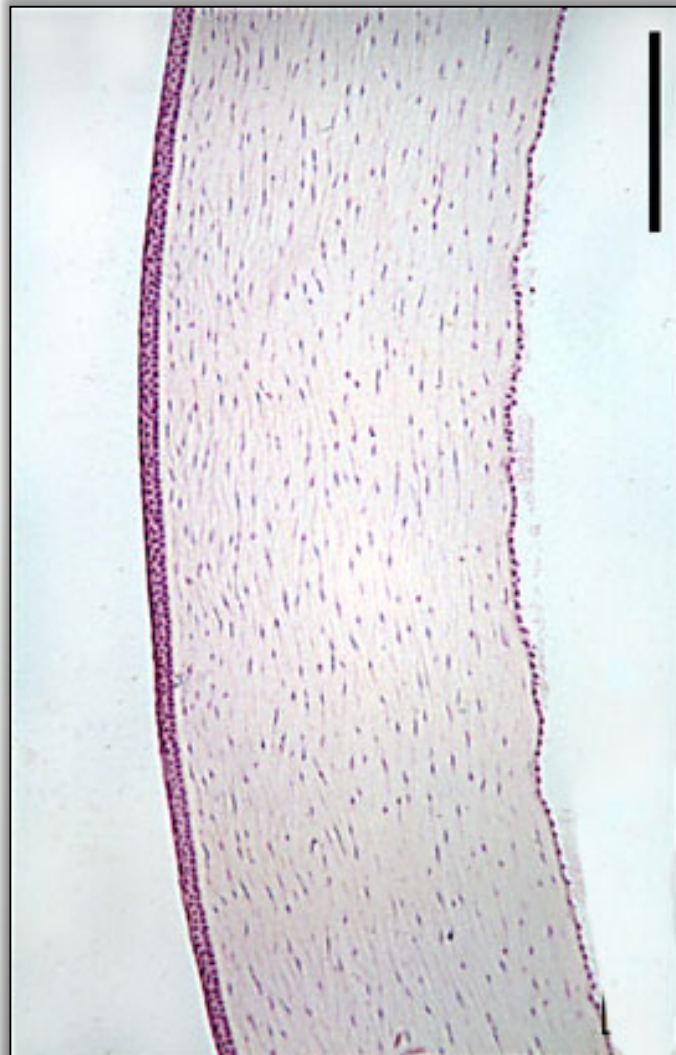
Vitreous,  
retina,  
choroid,  
optic nerve

# Tear film layers and functions

- **Oil layer:**
  - Meibomian glands
    - Prevents evaporation
- **Water layer:**
  - Lacrimal glands
    - Lubricates
    - Allows blinking
    - Washes away debris
    - Forms smooth surface
- **Mucin layer:**
  - Goblet cells of conjunctiva
    - Attaches tear film to eye
    - Spreads water evenly

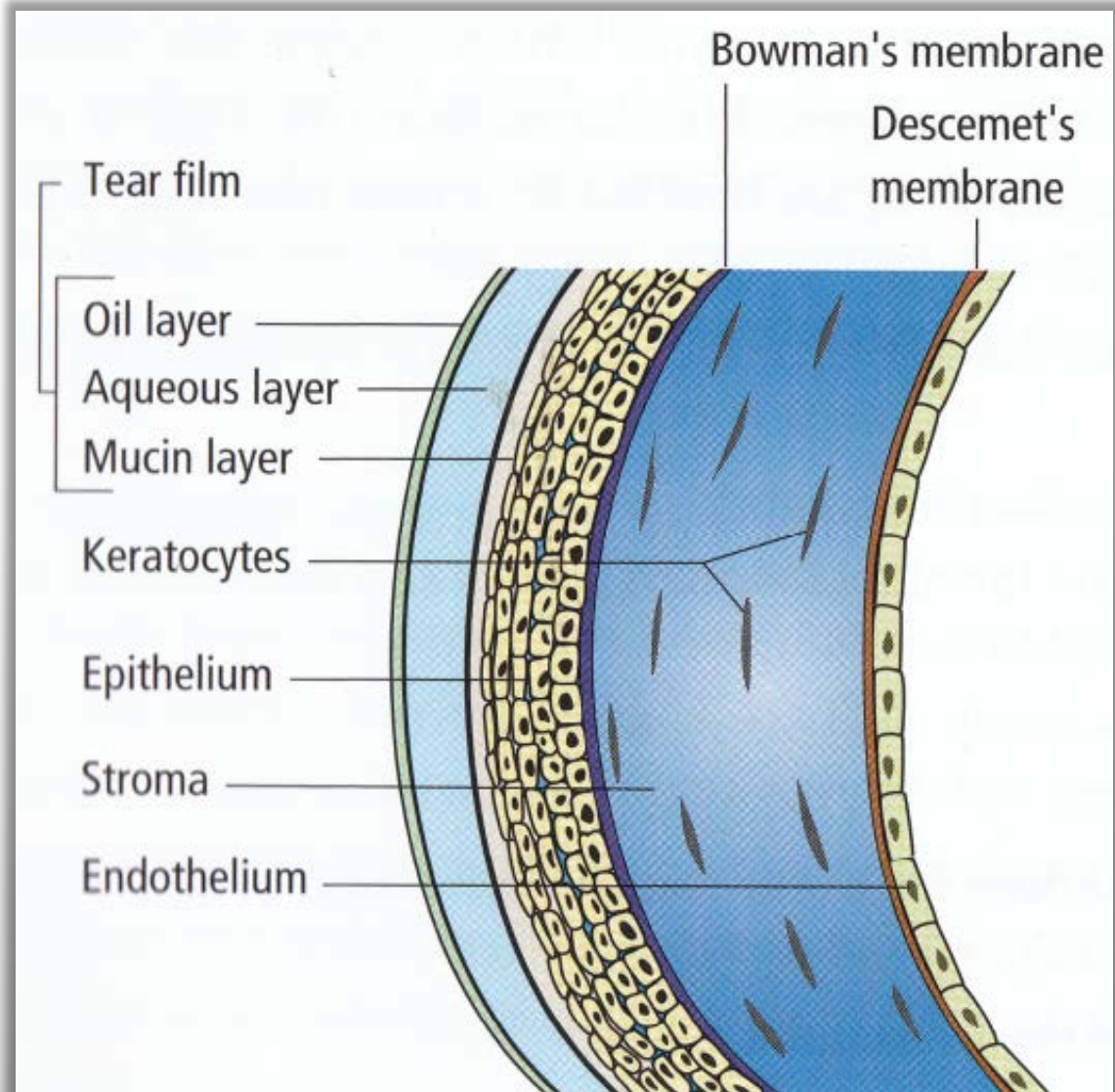


# Cornea functions



- **Transmits light, transparent**
  - Collagen and matrix
    - Aligned
    - Spacing
    - Relative dehydration is maintained by endothelial cells
  - No blood vessels
- **Refracts light +40-44 dioptres**
  - Curvature
  - Has different refractive index from air

# Corneal anatomy



## Epithelium:

Barrier to fluid loss and pathogen penetration

## Stroma:

Collagen, ECM, keratocytes

## Endothelium:

Maintains relative dehydration

## Dense innervation:

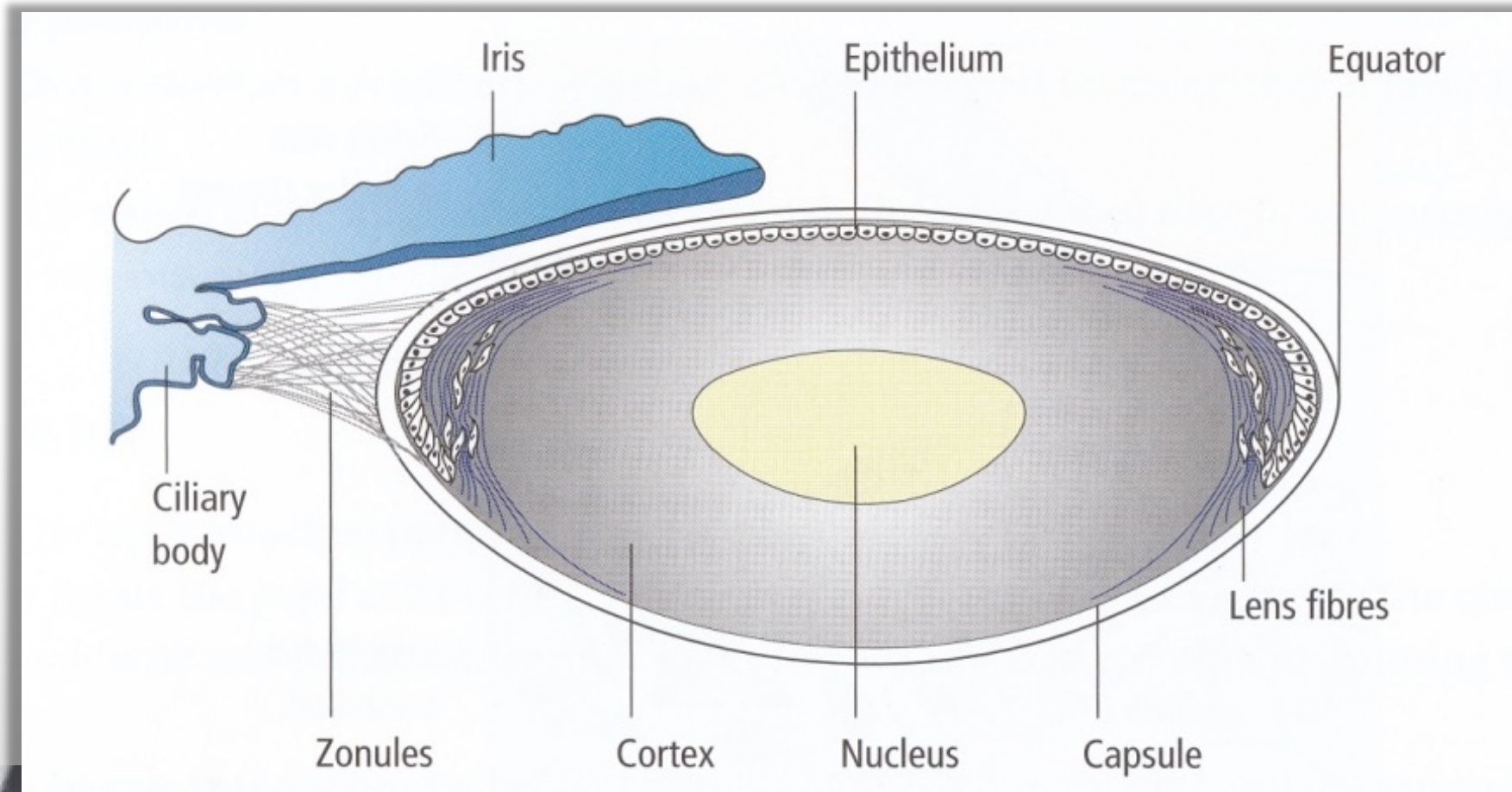
Most sensitive organ in the body  
Immune privilege  
Rapid tearing reflex

## The cornea:

Transmits light  
Refracts lights  
Protects ocular interior

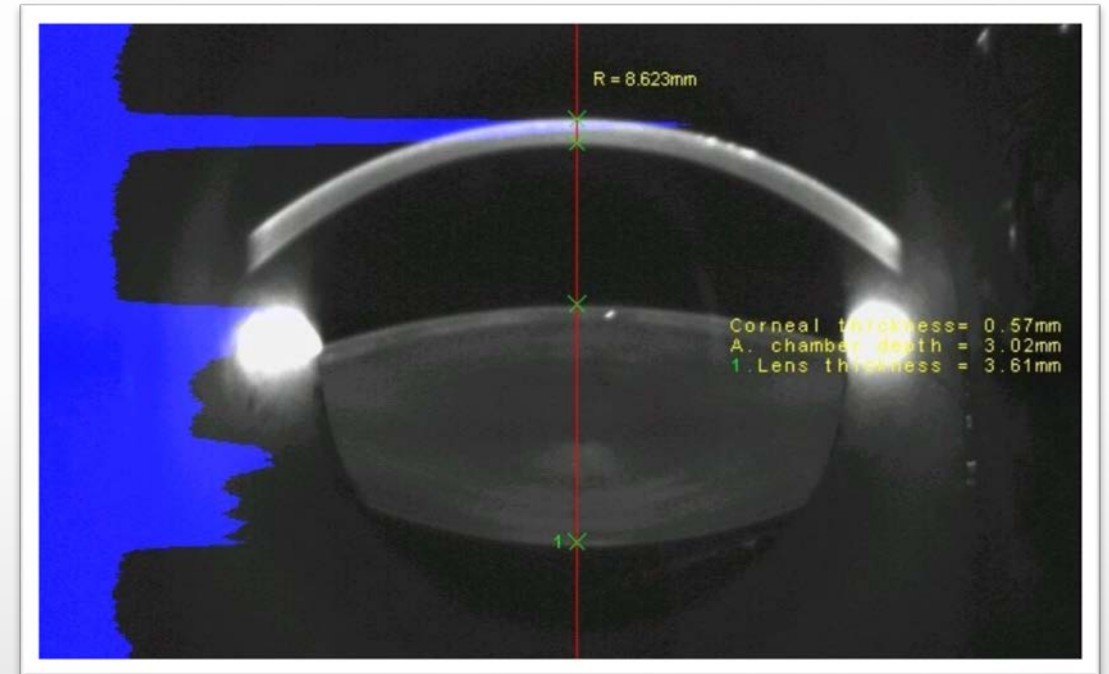


# Structure of the crystalline lens



# Crystalline Lens: Structure and function

- Composed of  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$  crystallins (water soluble proteins)
- Transmission of light
- Refraction of light. +17 dioptres
- Variable refraction of light - accommodation

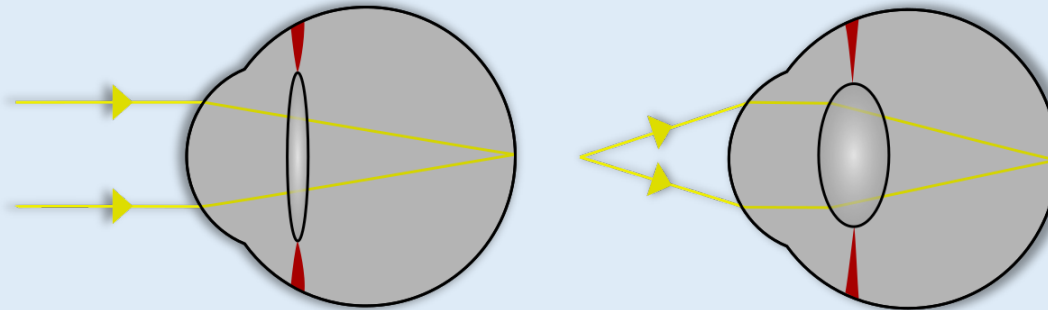


Cornea 2/3<sup>rd</sup> and lens 1/3<sup>rd</sup> refracting power

# Accommodation

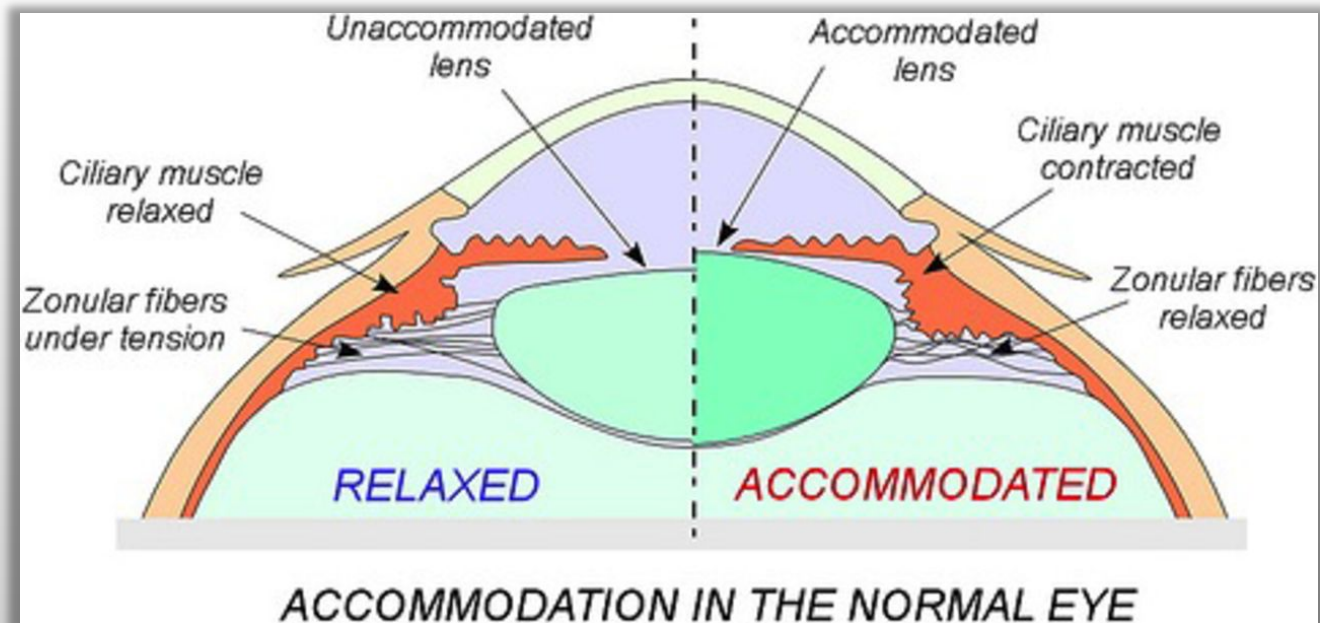
## Far objects:

Ciliary muscle relaxed  
(↑ diameter)  
Zonules tight  
Lens flatter i.e.  
distance



## Near objects:

Ciliary muscle contracts  
(↓ diameter)  
Zonules relaxed  
Lens increases in convexity  
'accommodation' i.e. near



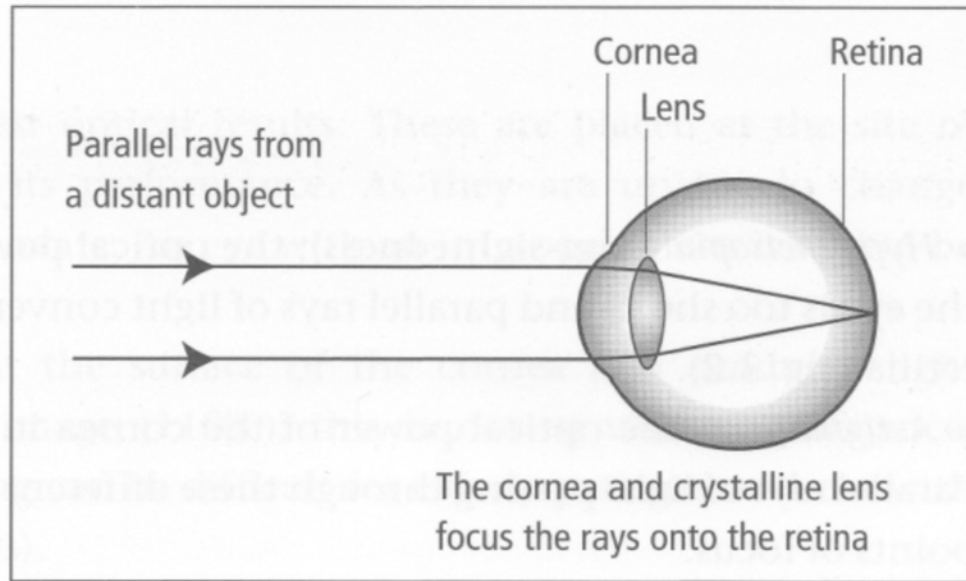
# Accommodation video



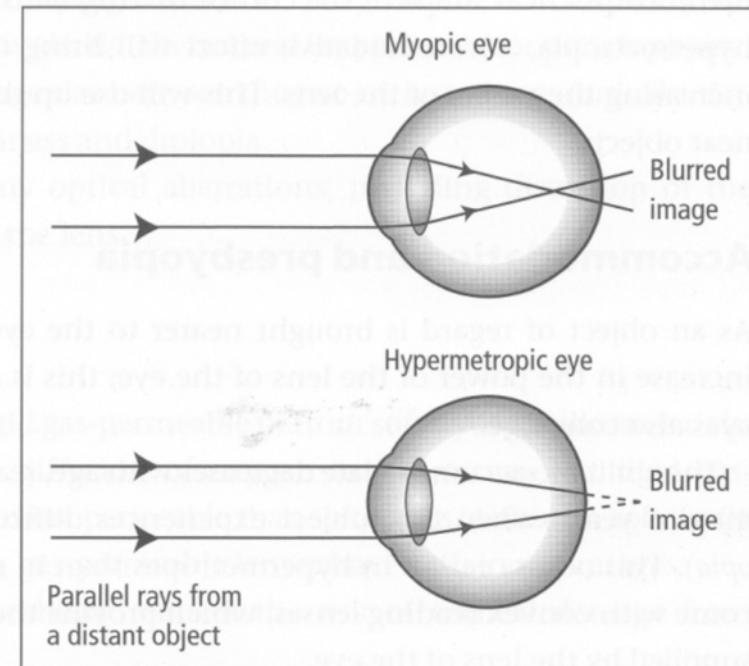
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p\\_xLO7yxgOk&list=WL&index=3&t=0s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p_xLO7yxgOk&list=WL&index=3&t=0s)
- Search for accommodation reflex on youtube

# Emmetropia, Myopia & Hypermetropia

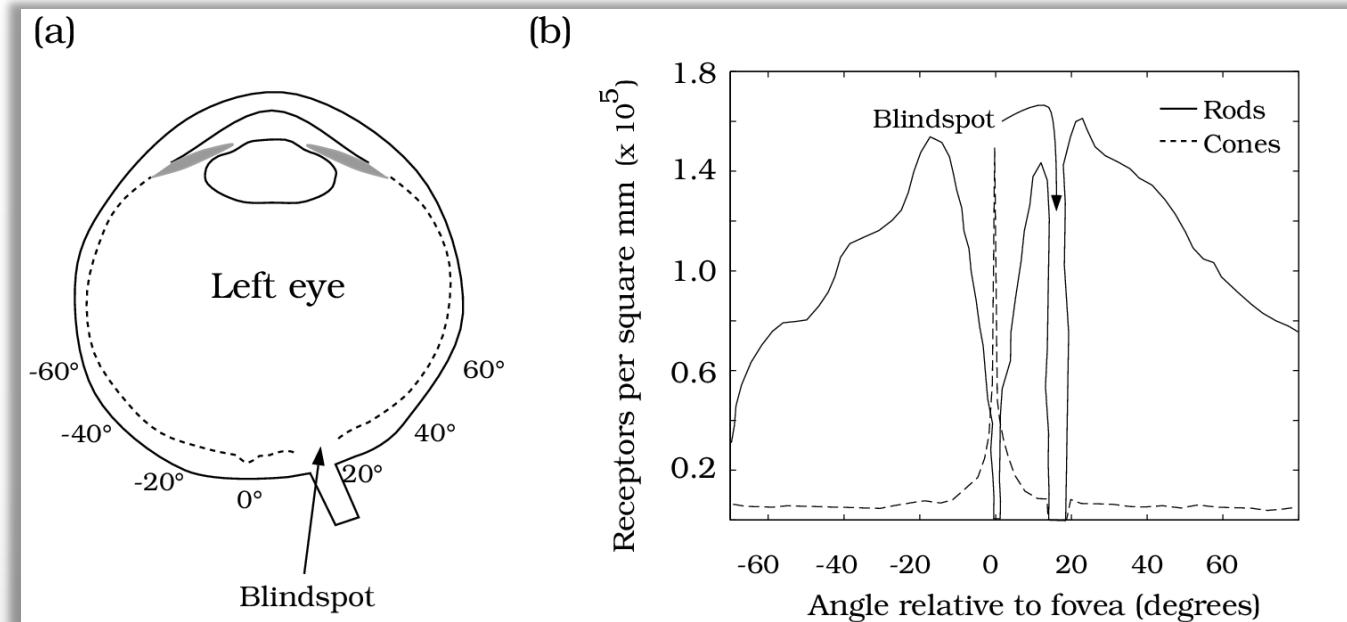
Emmetropia: cornea/lens/eye length "normal"



Myopic eye = long, hyperopic eye = short



# Retinal Function



- **Photoreceptors: conversion of light into action potentials**

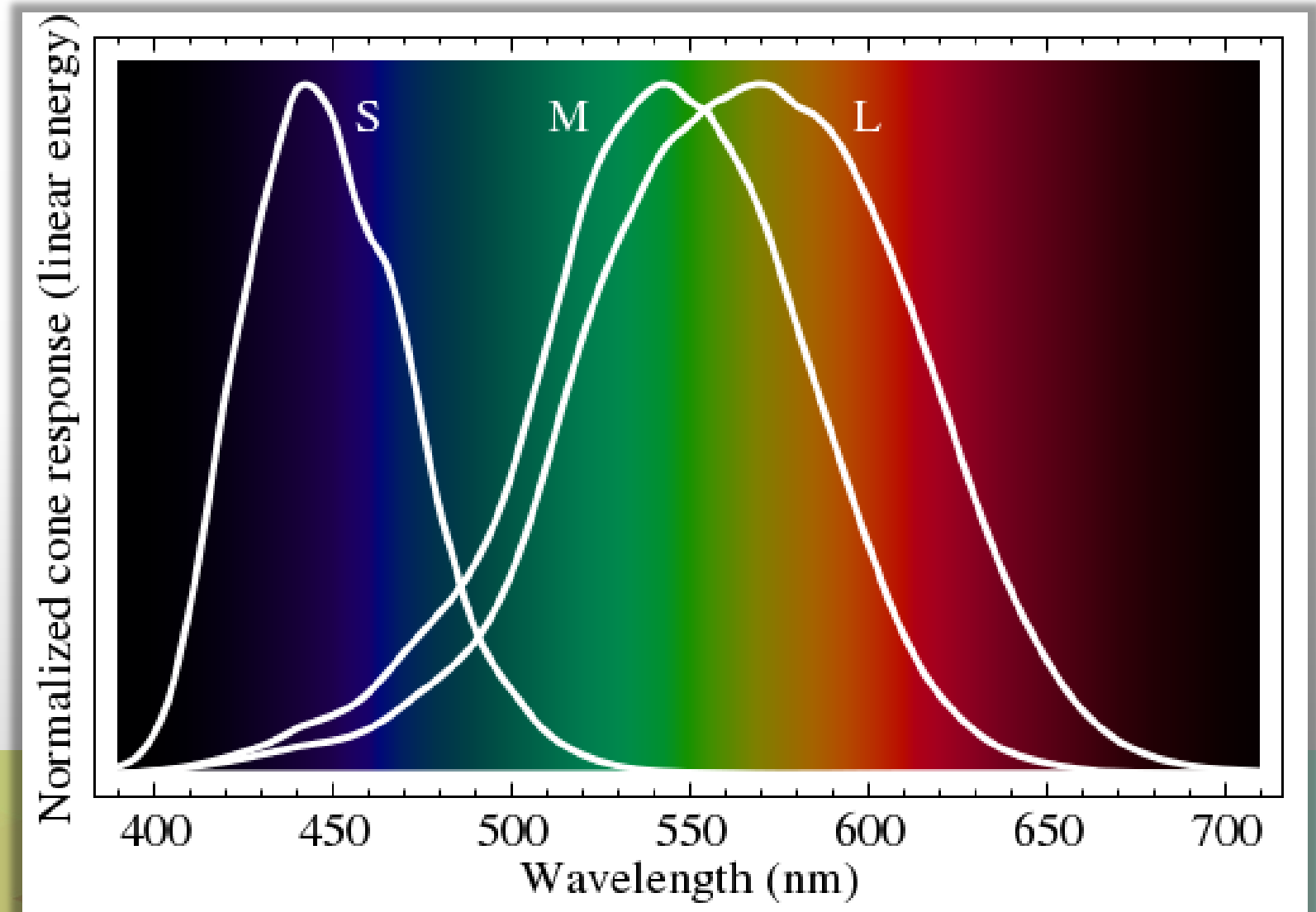
- Cones. 6 million. High threshold to light. High acuity. Light adapted (photopic) vision. Colour vision- 3 types of cones: blue, green, red.
- Rods. 120 million. Low threshold to light. Sensitive to movement. Dark adapted (scotopic) vision. No colour. Low resolution.
- Synapse with bipolar cells → Retinal ganglion cells → Axons form the optic nerve. 1 million fibres.

# Spectral sensitivity ranges (nm)

**S** (Blue 2%) 400-500nm

**M** (Green 32%) 450-630nm

**L** (Red 64%) 500-700nm



Vitreous

Inner limiting membrane

Nerve fibre layer

Ganglion cell layer

Inner plexiform layer

Inner nuclear layer

Outer plexiform layer

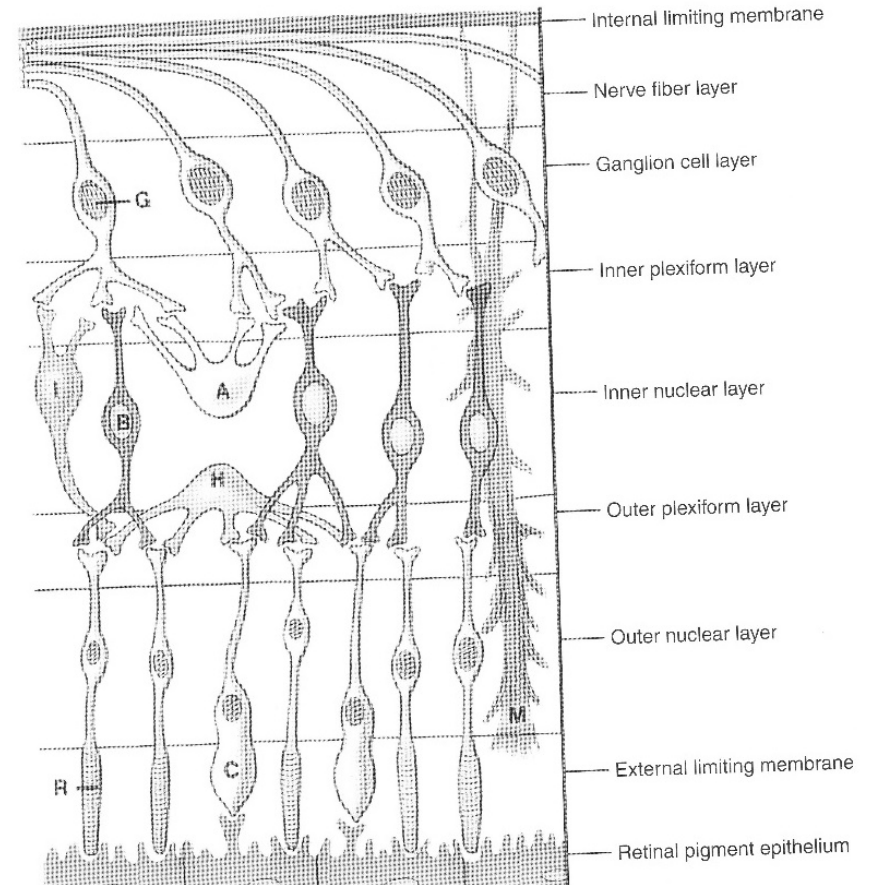
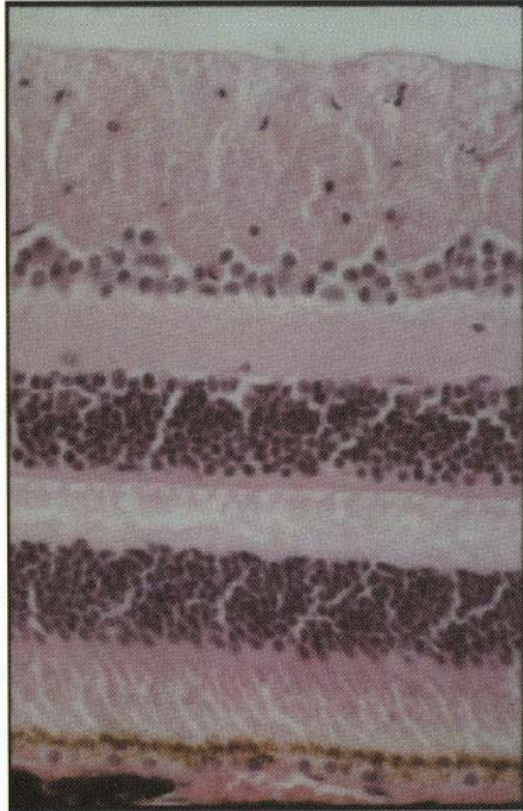
Receptor nuclear layer

External limiting membrane

Inner and outer segments  
of photoreceptors

RPE

Choroid





Vitreous

Inner limiting membrane

Nerve fibre layer

Ganglion cell layer

Inner plexiform layer

Inner nuclear layer

Outer plexiform layer

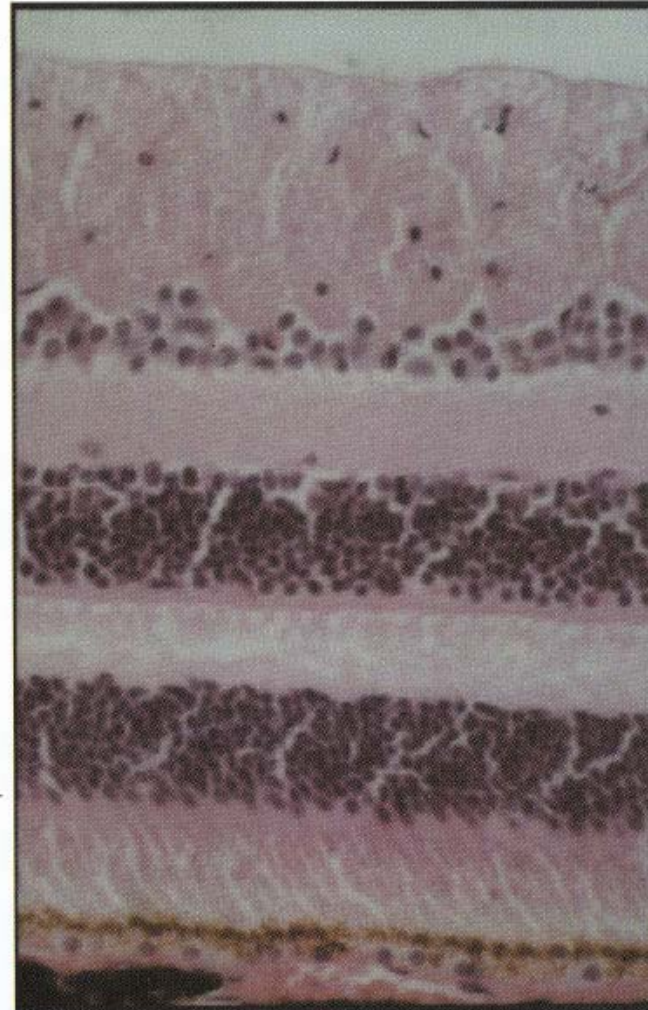
Receptor nuclear layer

External limiting membrane

Inner and outer segments  
of photoreceptors

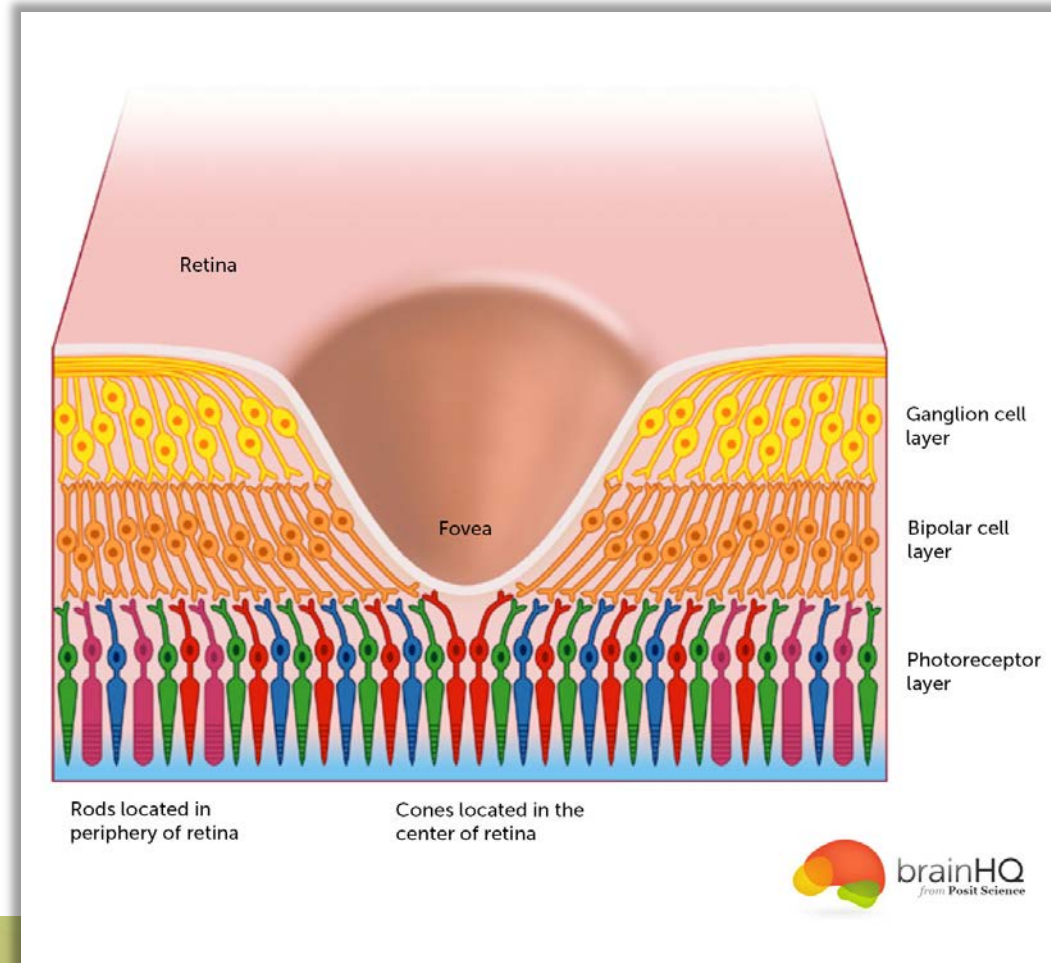
RPE

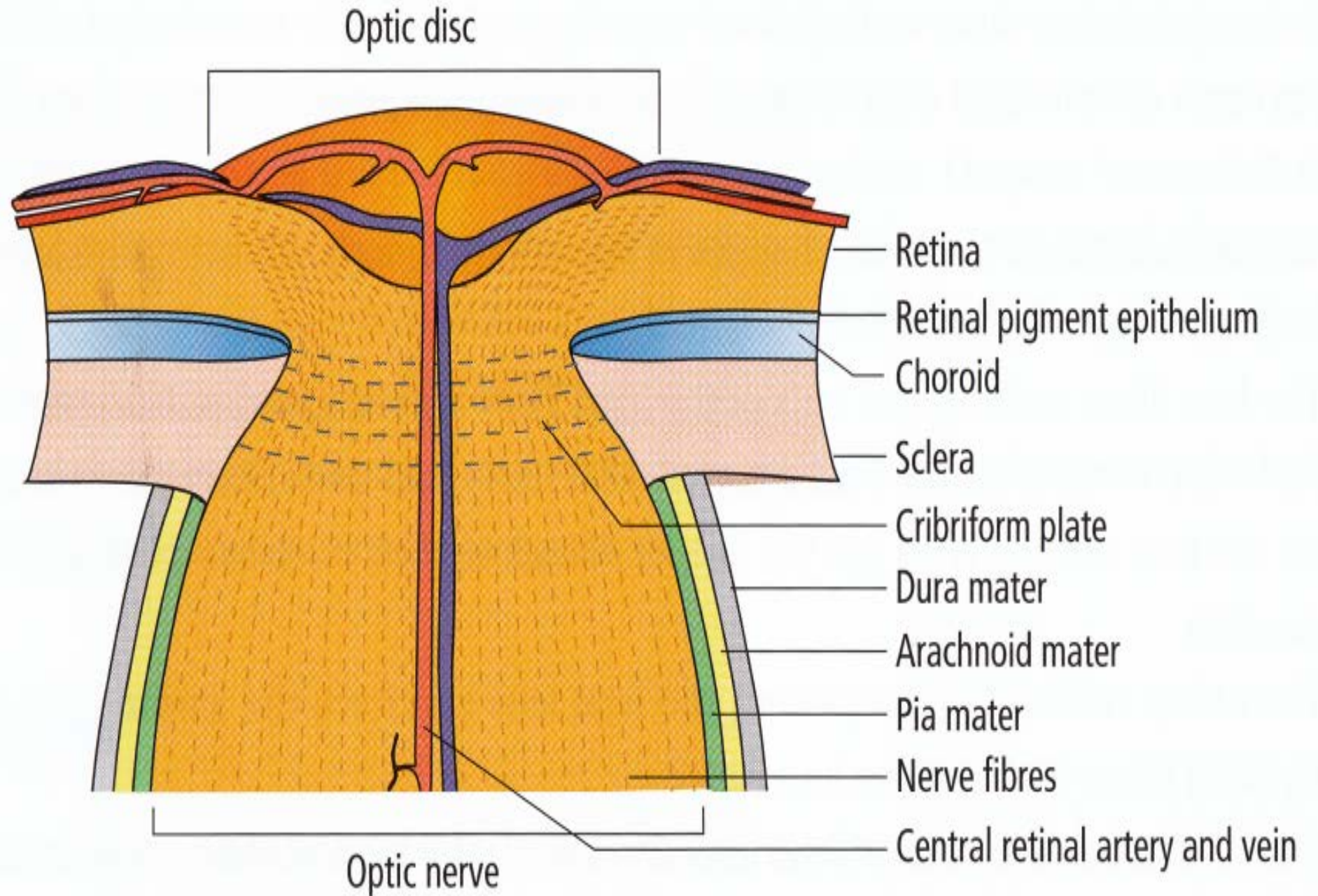
Choroid



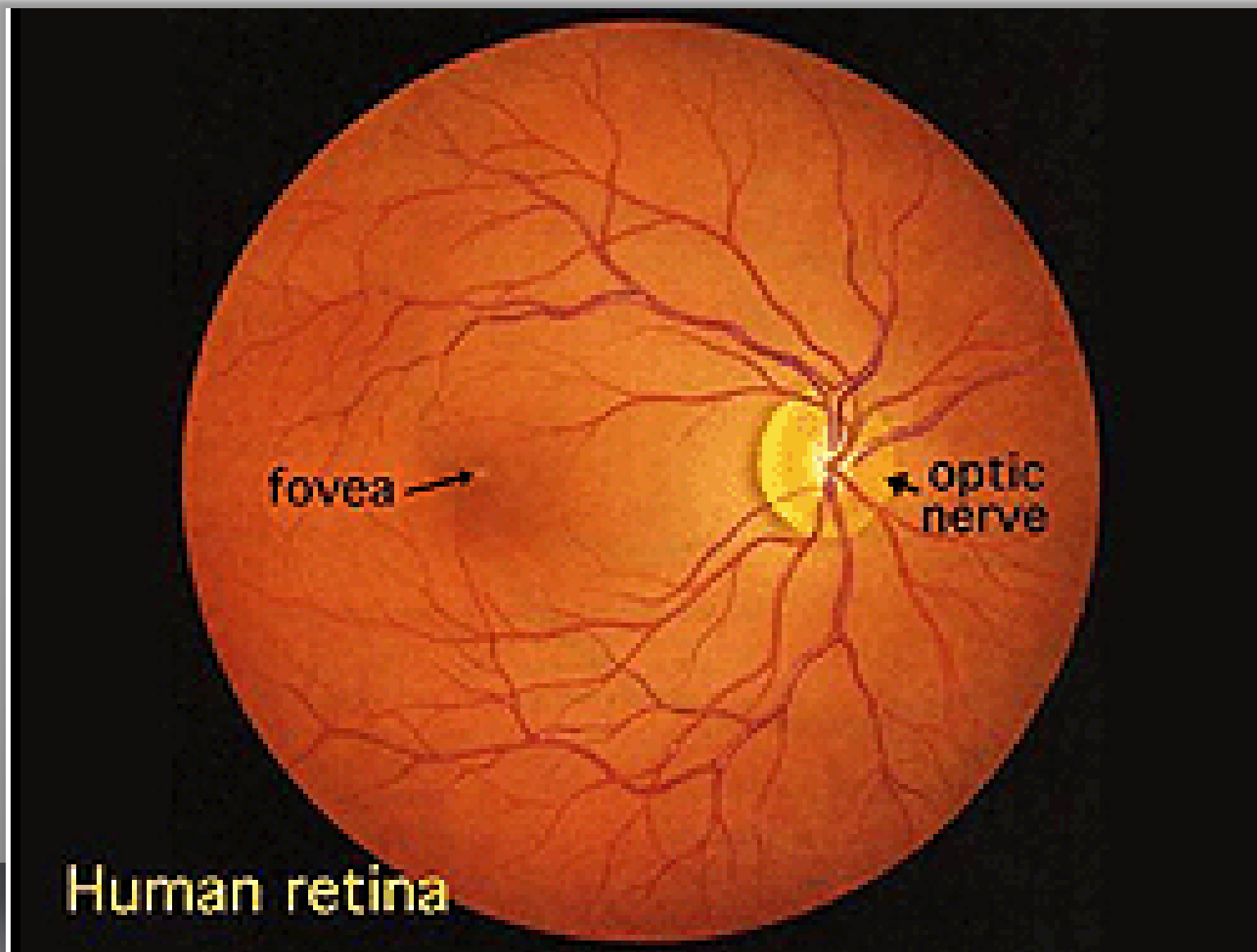
# RETINAL MICRO-STRUCTURE

# Fovea is within the central macula





Temporal

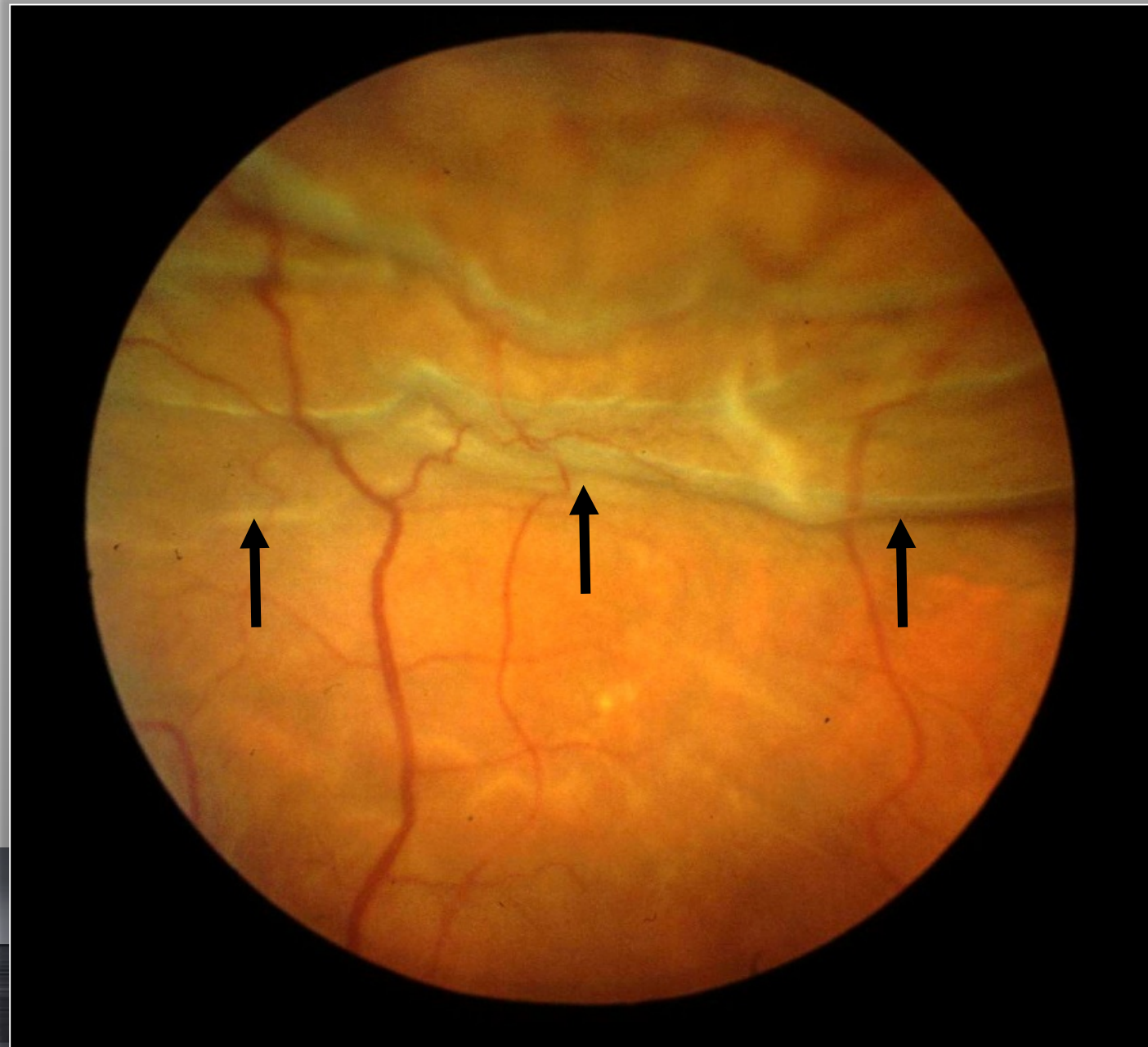


Nasal

Human retina

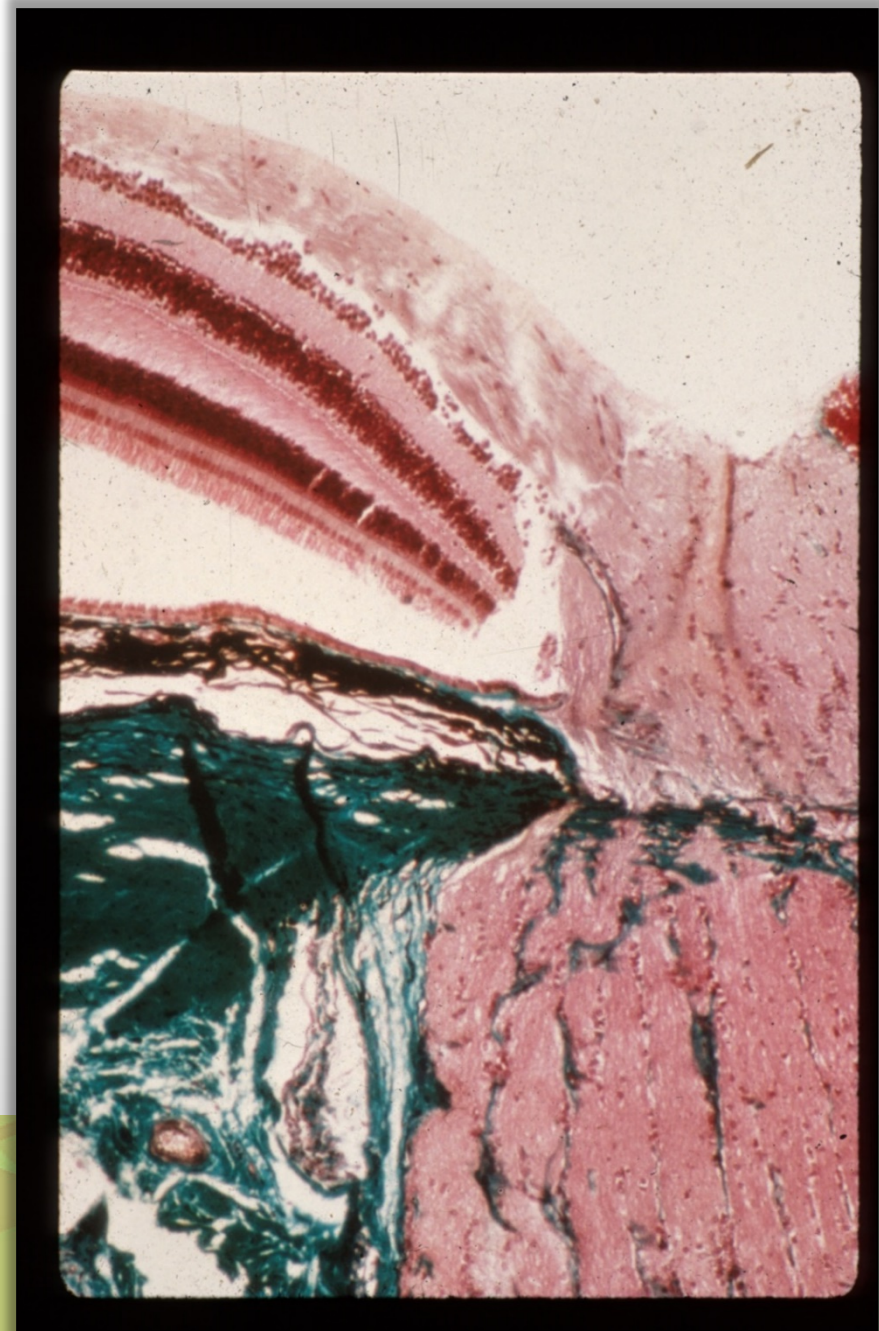


# Superior Retinal Detachment



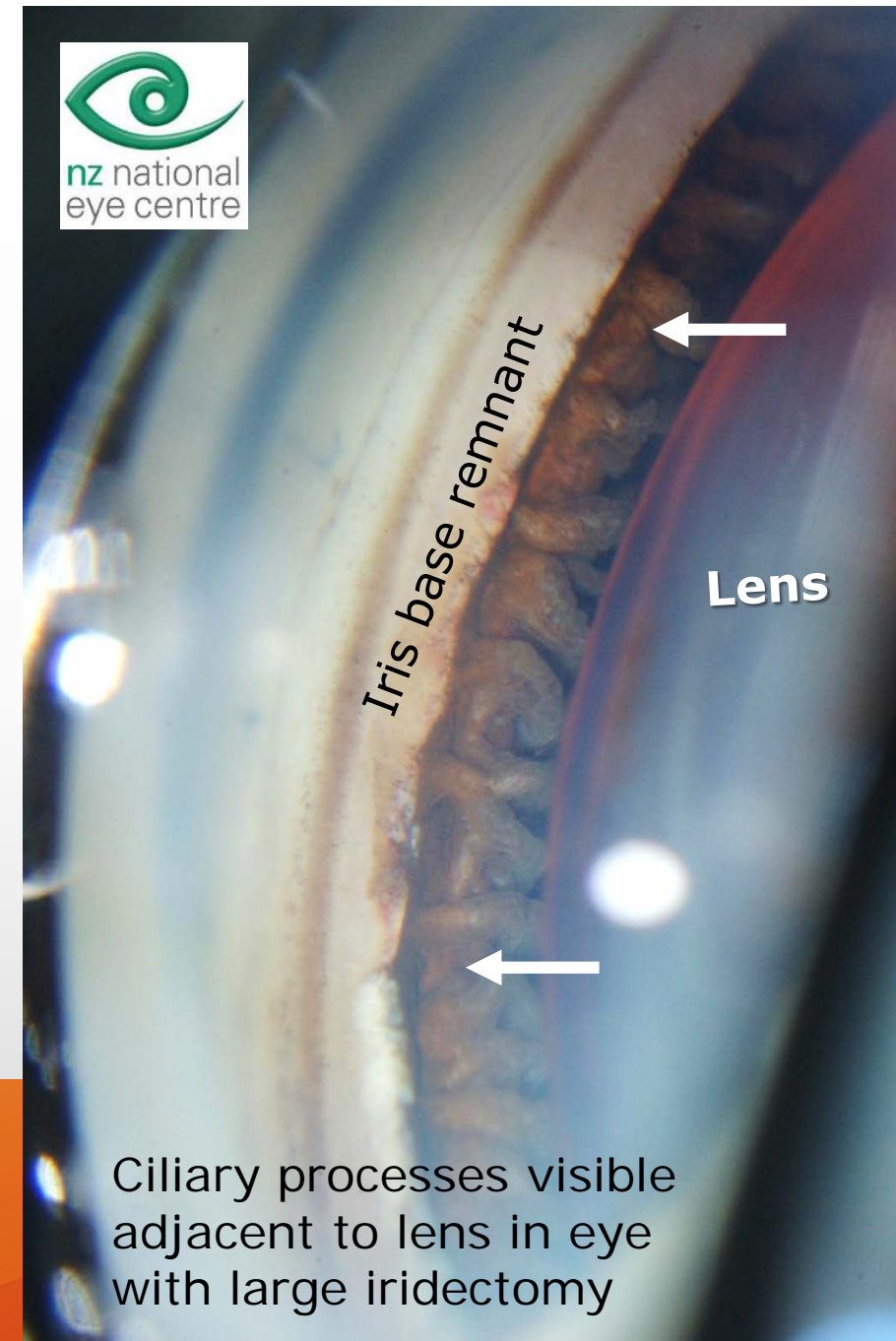
# Optic nerve head and adjacent retina

(Masson's trichrome)

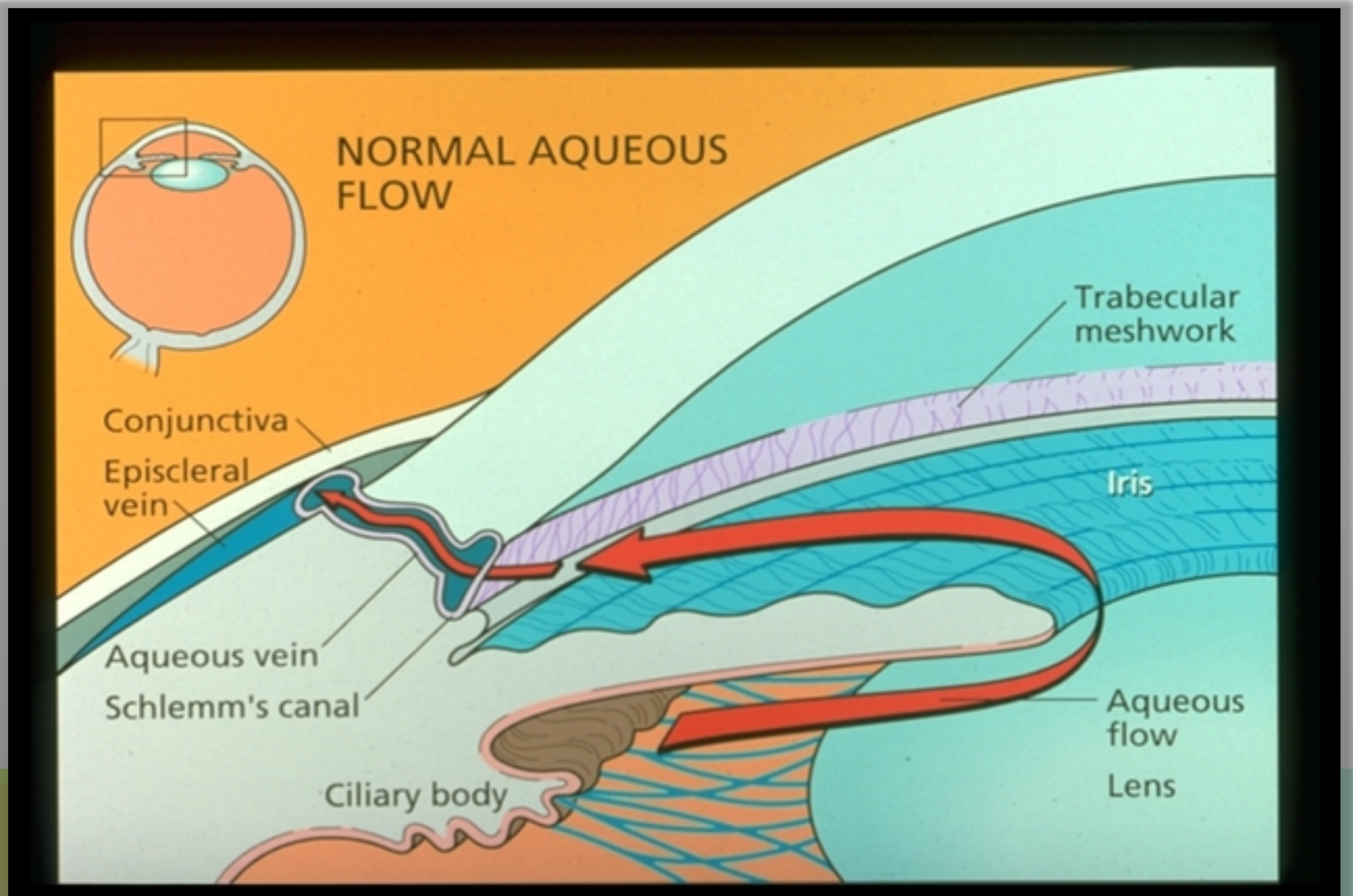


# Ciliary Body

- Attachment of zonules (suspensory ligament of lens)
- Accommodation. Ciliary body smooth muscle
- Secretion of aqueous humour: Ciliary epithelium
  - Provides nutrition for the (avascular) cornea and lens
  - Maintains intraocular pressure

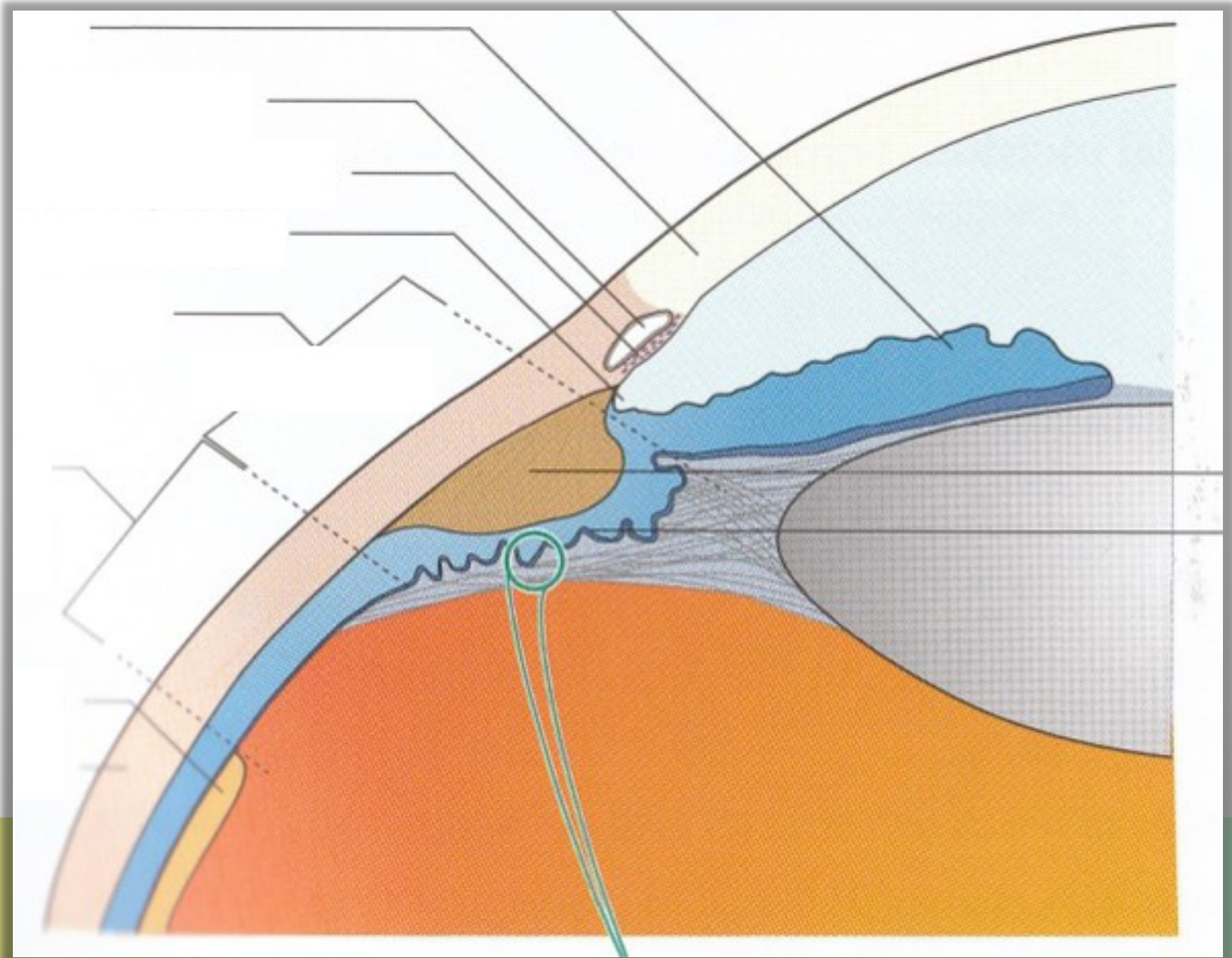


Ciliary processes visible adjacent to lens in eye with large iridectomy





Name  
these  
ocular  
structures



# The Uveal Tract

**The eye's vascular and immunological pool**

## Iris

Variable size of pupil (iris diaphragm) with light level with nearness of fixation

## Ciliary Body

Aqueous, accommodation, zonule

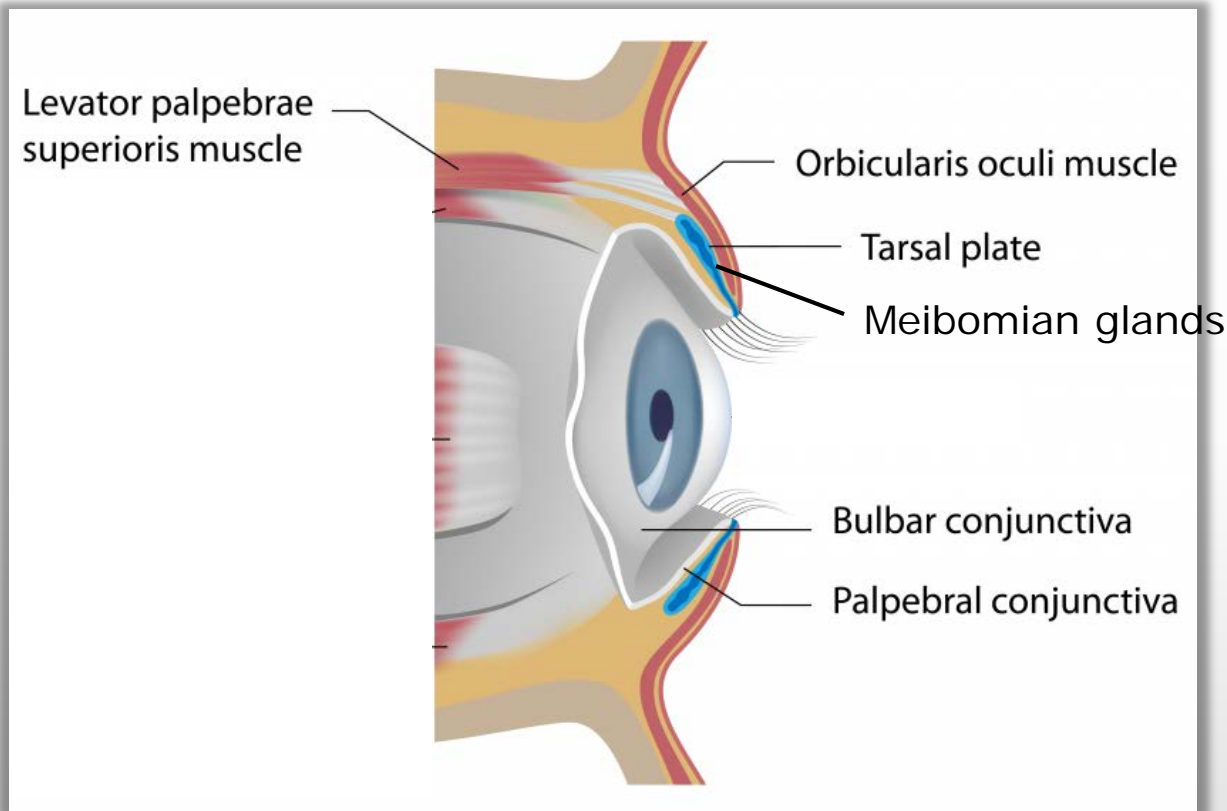
## Choroid

Nutrition of retina and sclera

**The most vascular tissue in the body**



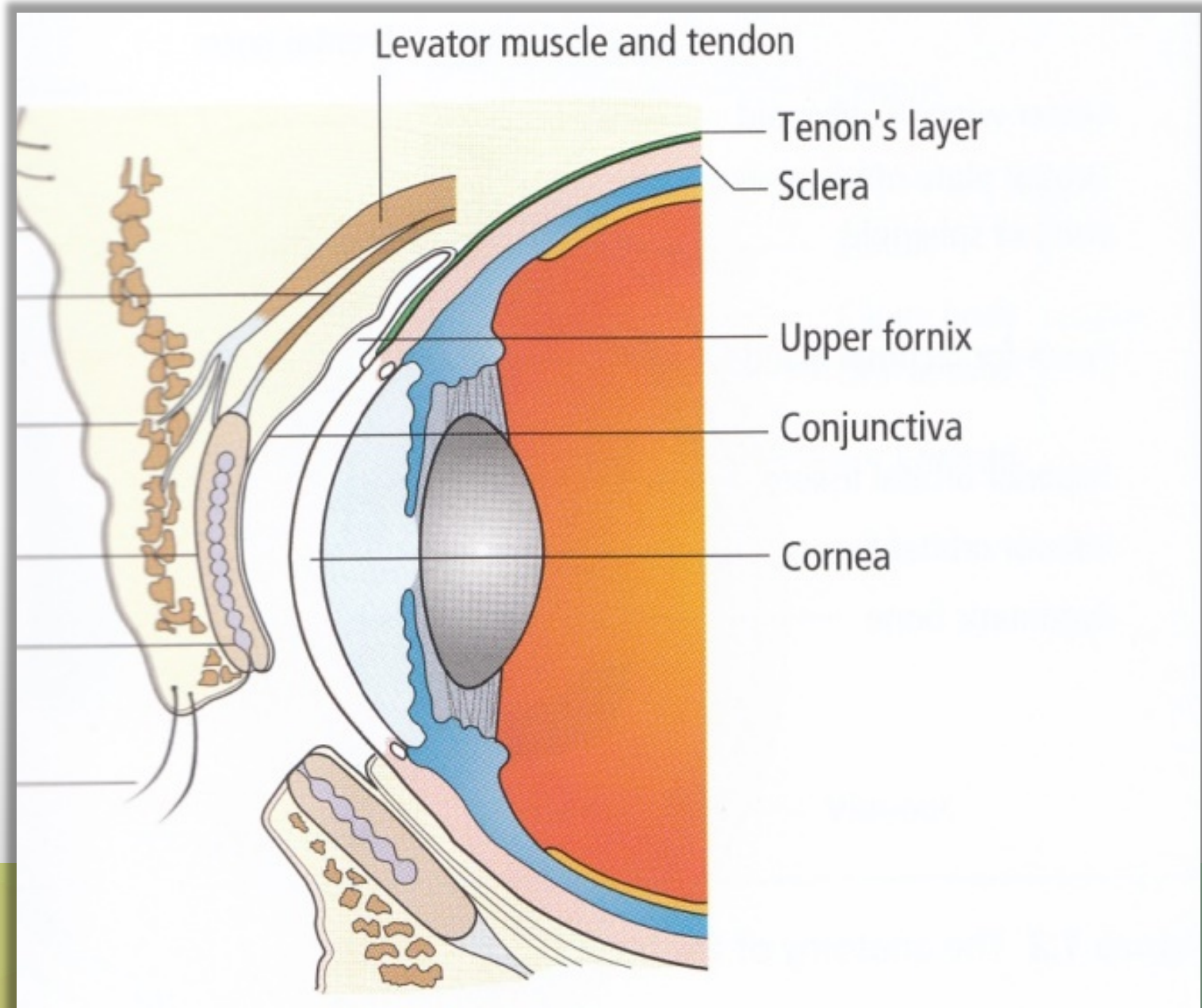
# Eyelids and conjunctiva



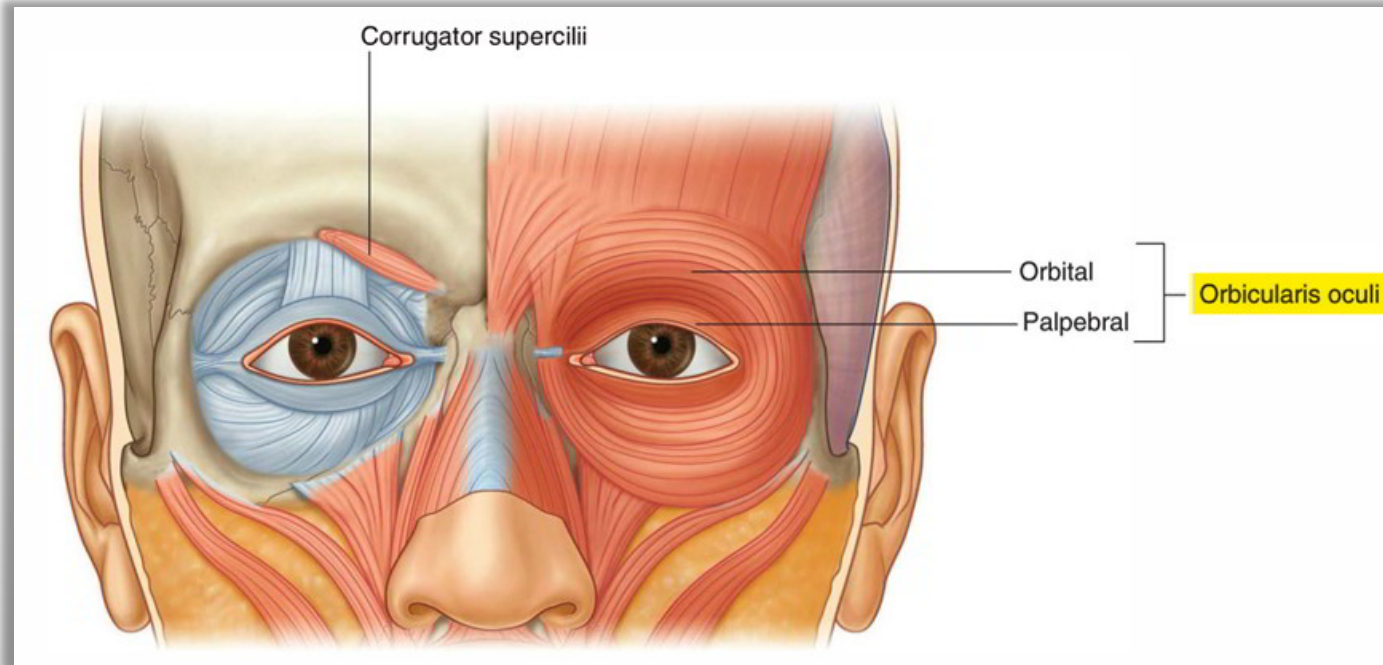
1. Skin
2. Muscles
3. Tarsal plate - mechanical stability & Meibomian glands – oil layer of tear
4. Conjunctiva  
Attach eyeball to orbit & lids & permits rotation

Functions: Distribute tears, clear debris, cover eyes during sleep & prevent evaporation, protect from foreign bodies via the blink reflex

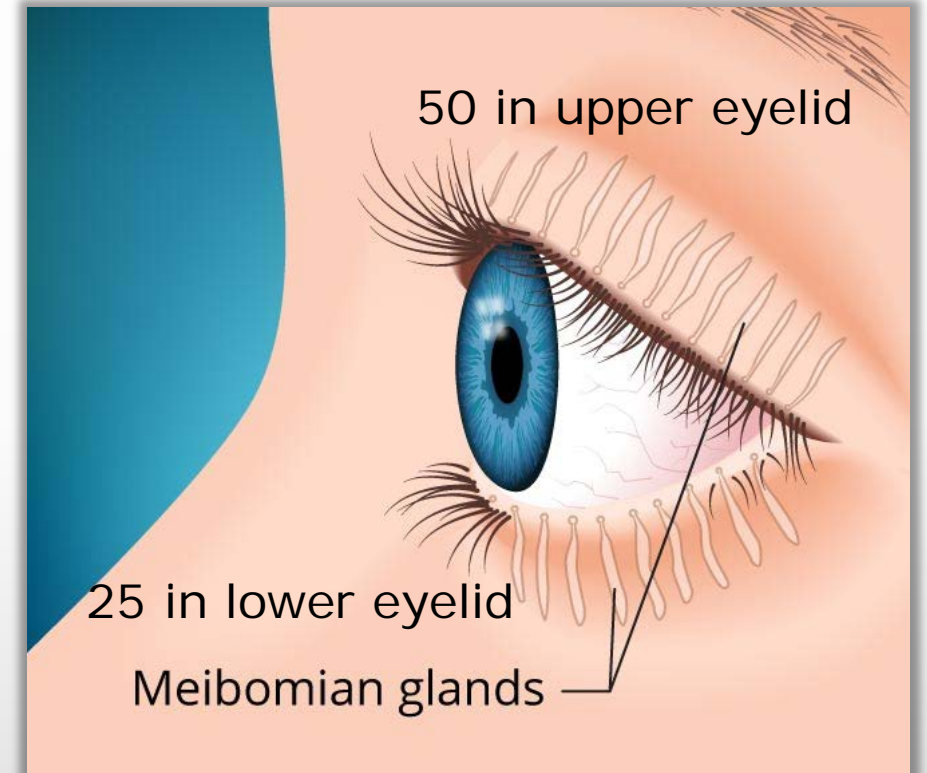
# Eyelids and conjunctiva



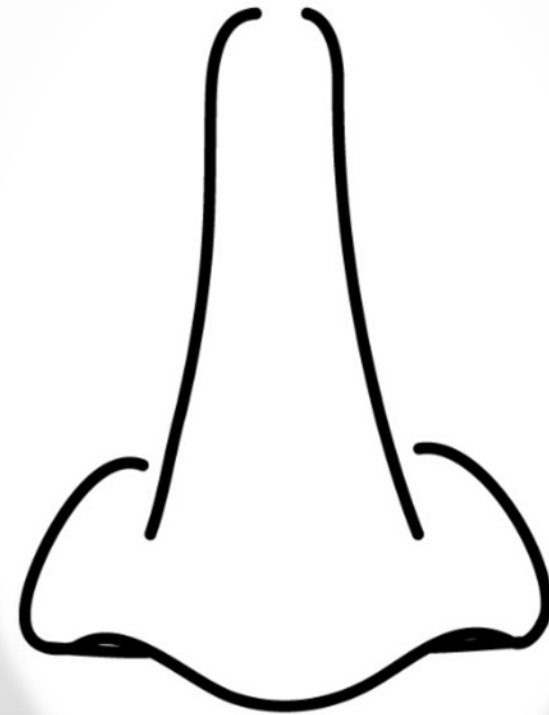
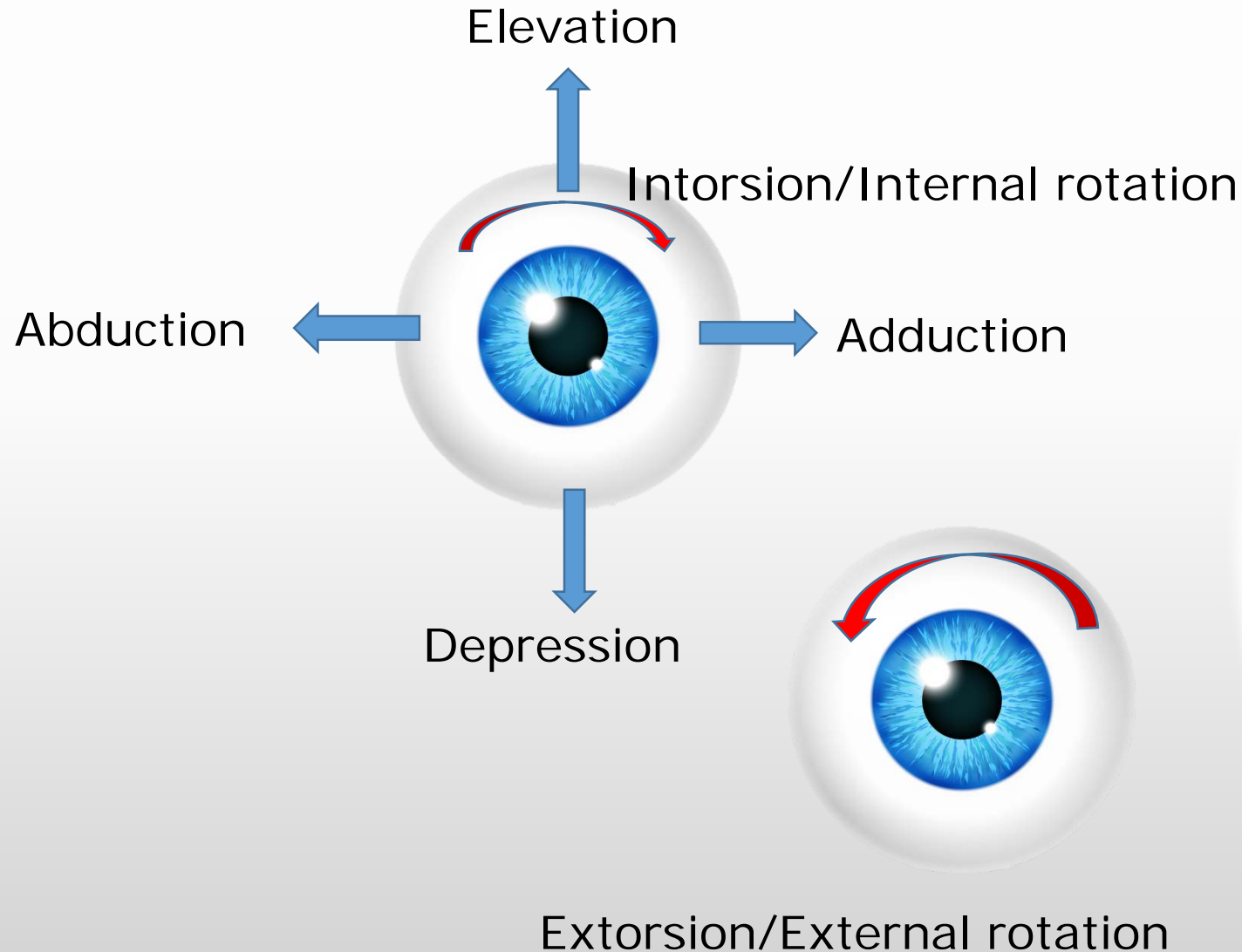
# Orbicularis oculi and eyelids



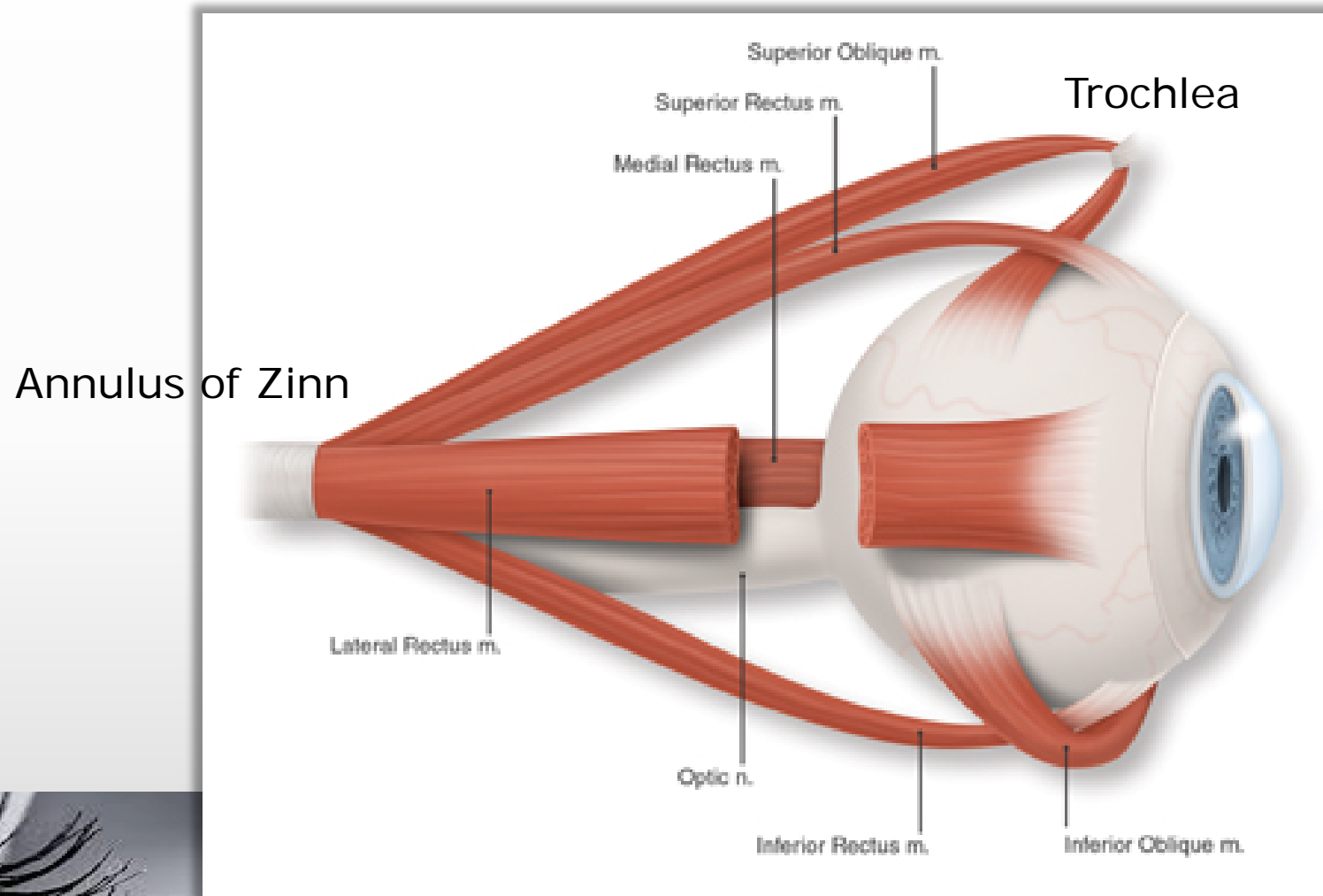
Orbicularis oculi muscle



# Eye movements



# Extra-ocular muscles



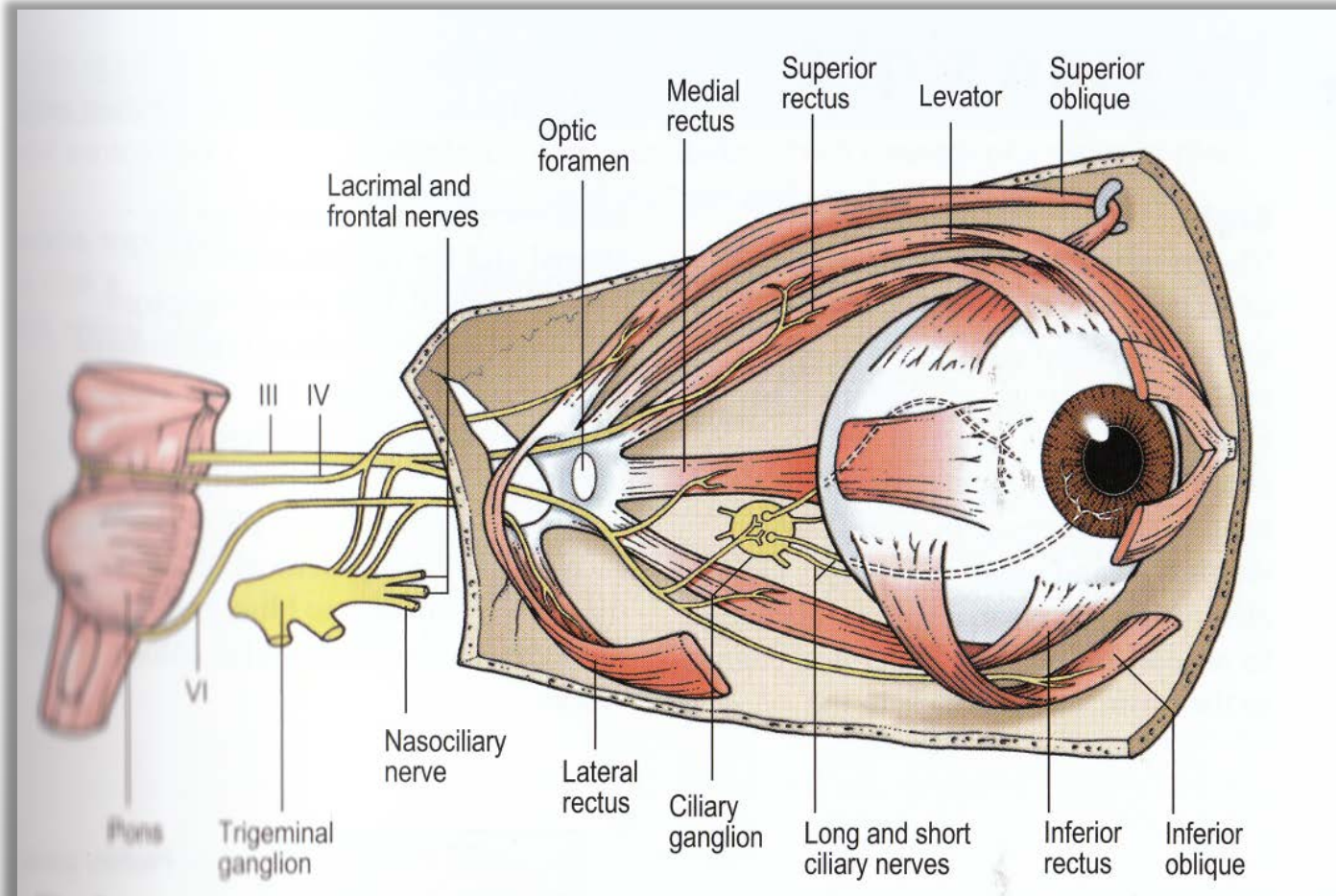
# Extra-ocular muscles

- Medial rectus. Adducts.
- Lateral rectus. Abducts.
- Superior rectus. Elevates.
- Inferior rectus. Depresses.
- Superior oblique. Intorts. depresses, abducts.
- Inferior oblique. Extorts. elevates, abducts.





# Innervation of extraocular muscles

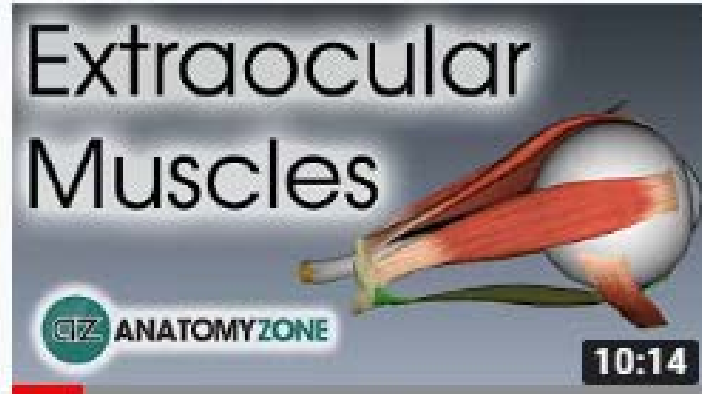


Lateral Rectus Muscle →  
“Abducts” → Innervated by  
Abducens nerve  
= Cranial nerve 6

Superior Oblique Muscle →  
Passes through the  
“trochlea” →  
Innervated by Trochlear  
nerve = Cranial nerve 4

The other 4 muscles →  
Produce “ocular movements”  
→ Innervated by Oculomotor  
nerve = Cranial nerve 3

# Extraocular muscles video



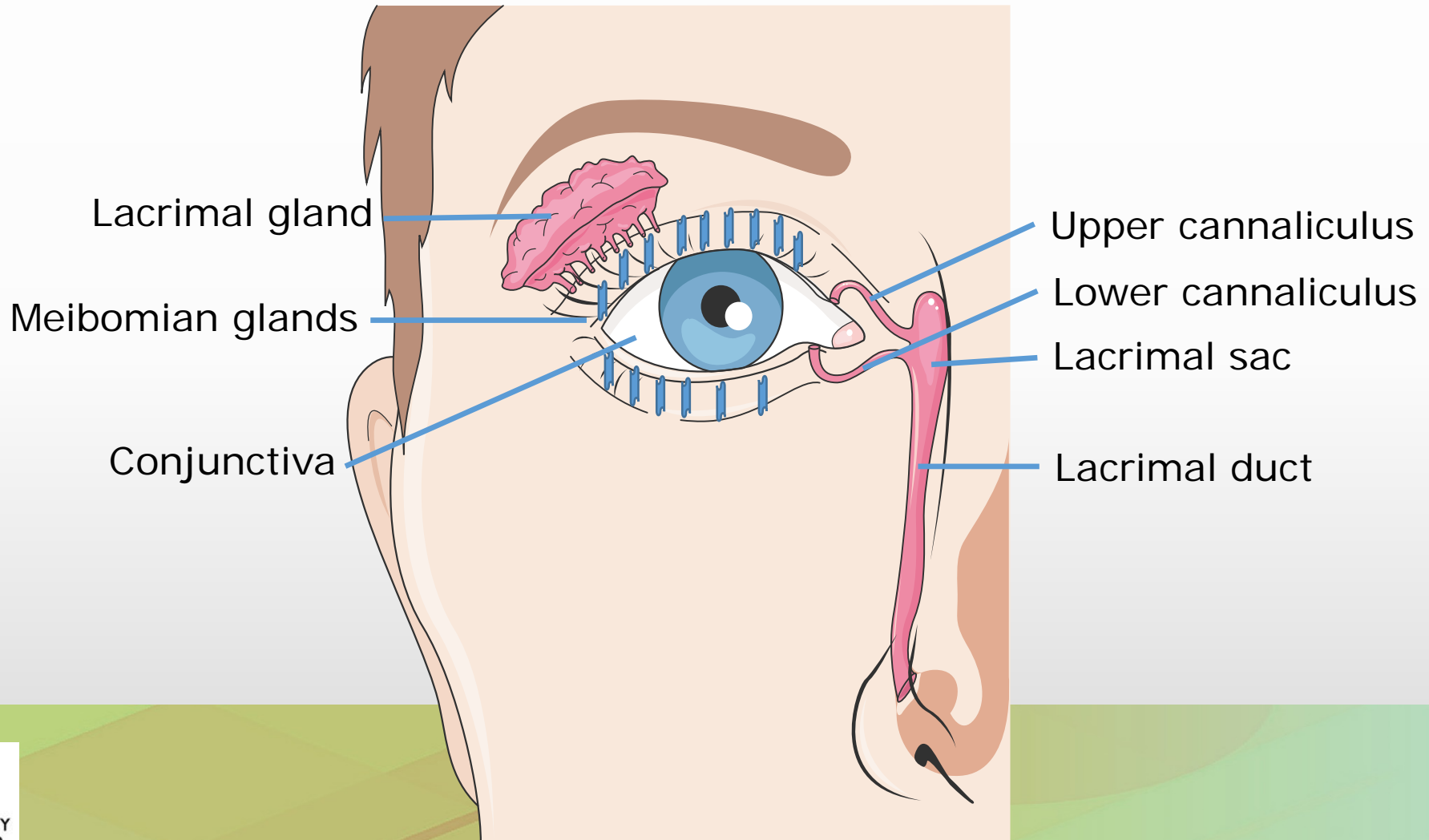
## Extraocular Muscles | Eye Anatomy

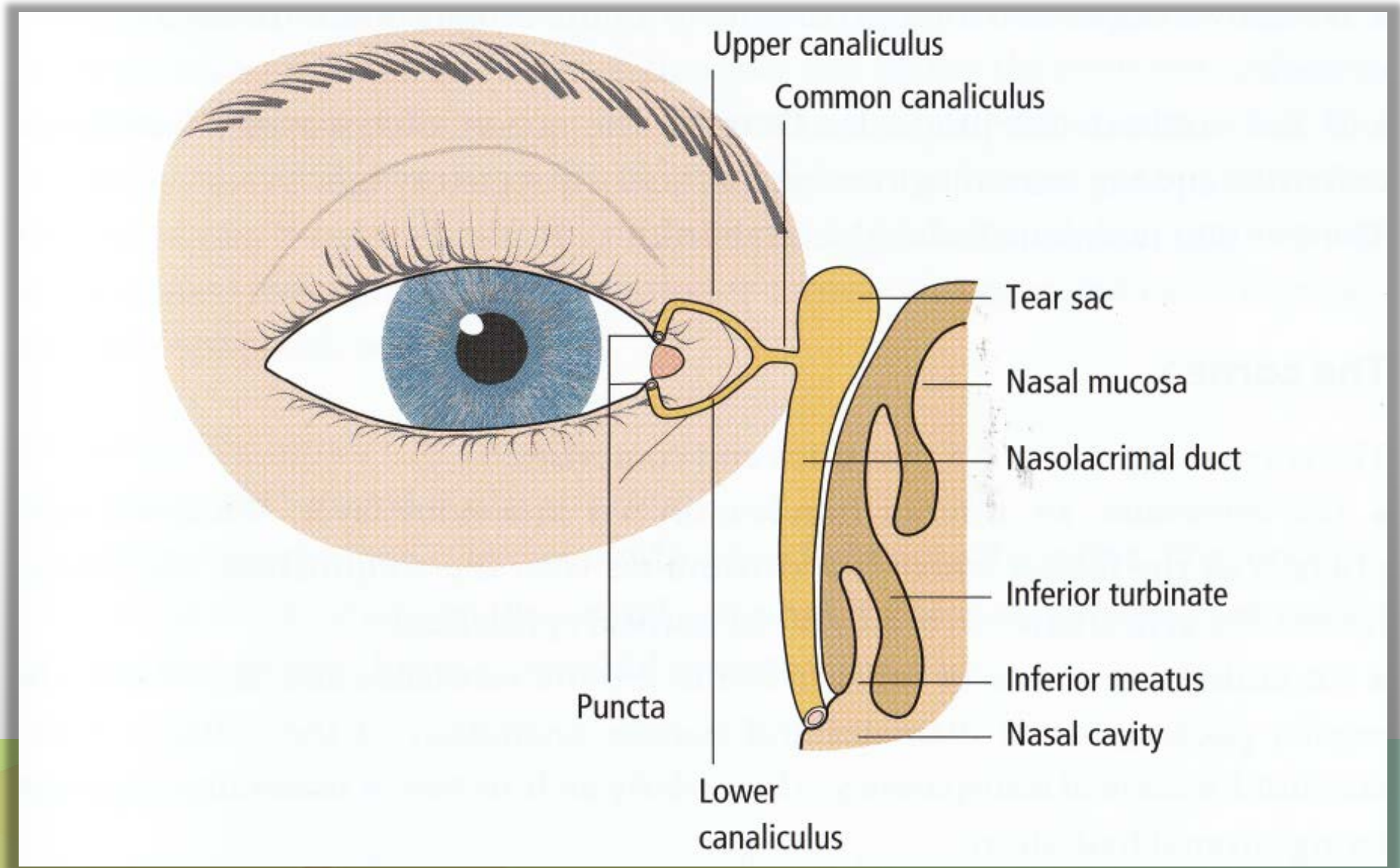
AnatomyZone  460K views • 3 years ago

Extraocular muscles - second video in eye anatomy series. Check out the 3D app at <http://AnatomyLearning.com>. More videos ...

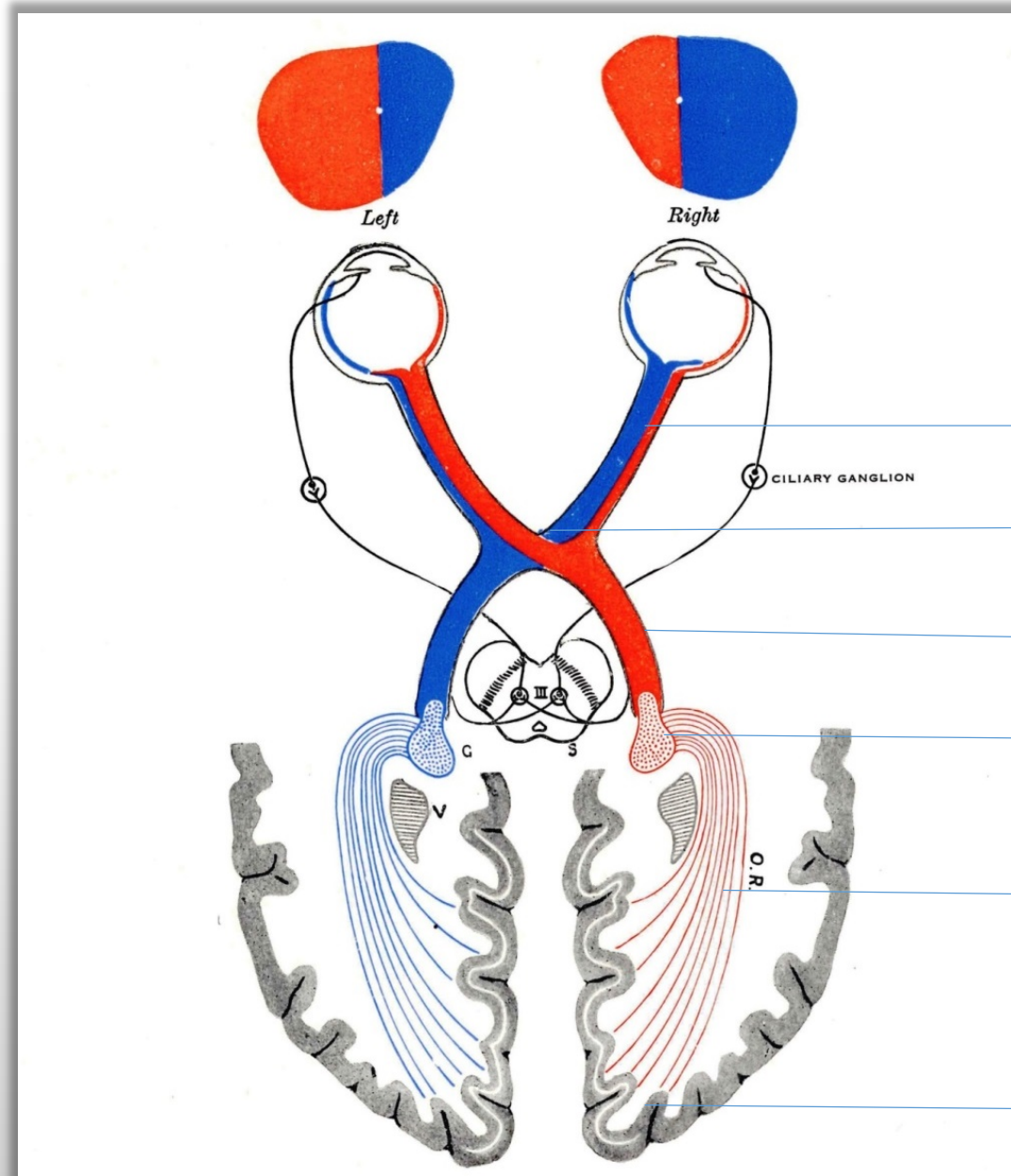
Search for 'extraocular muscles eye anatomy' on youtube  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f\\_rb6FMVHPk&t=7s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f_rb6FMVHPk&t=7s)

# Tear production and drainage





# Visual Pathway



Optic nerve

Optic chiasm

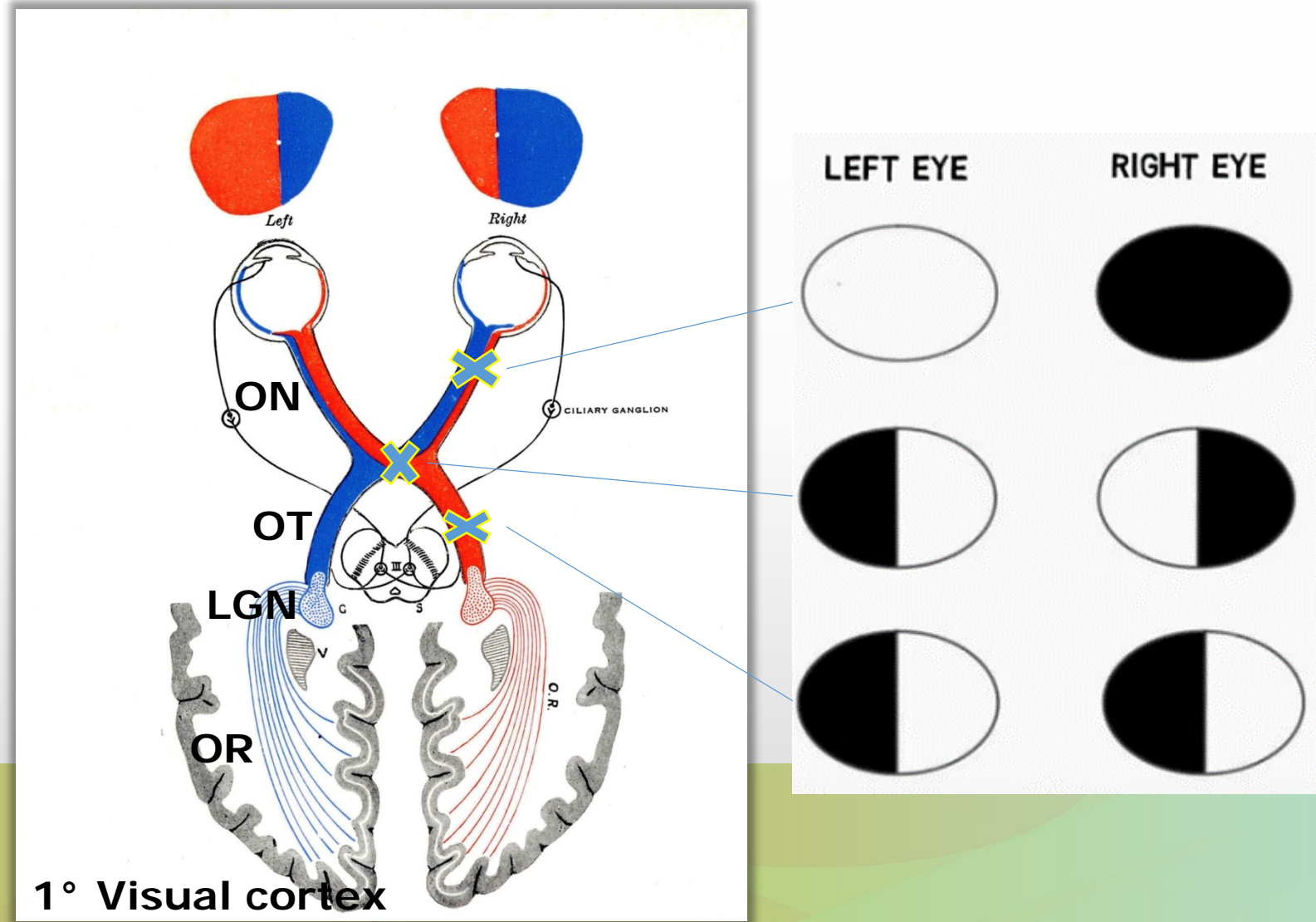
Optic tract

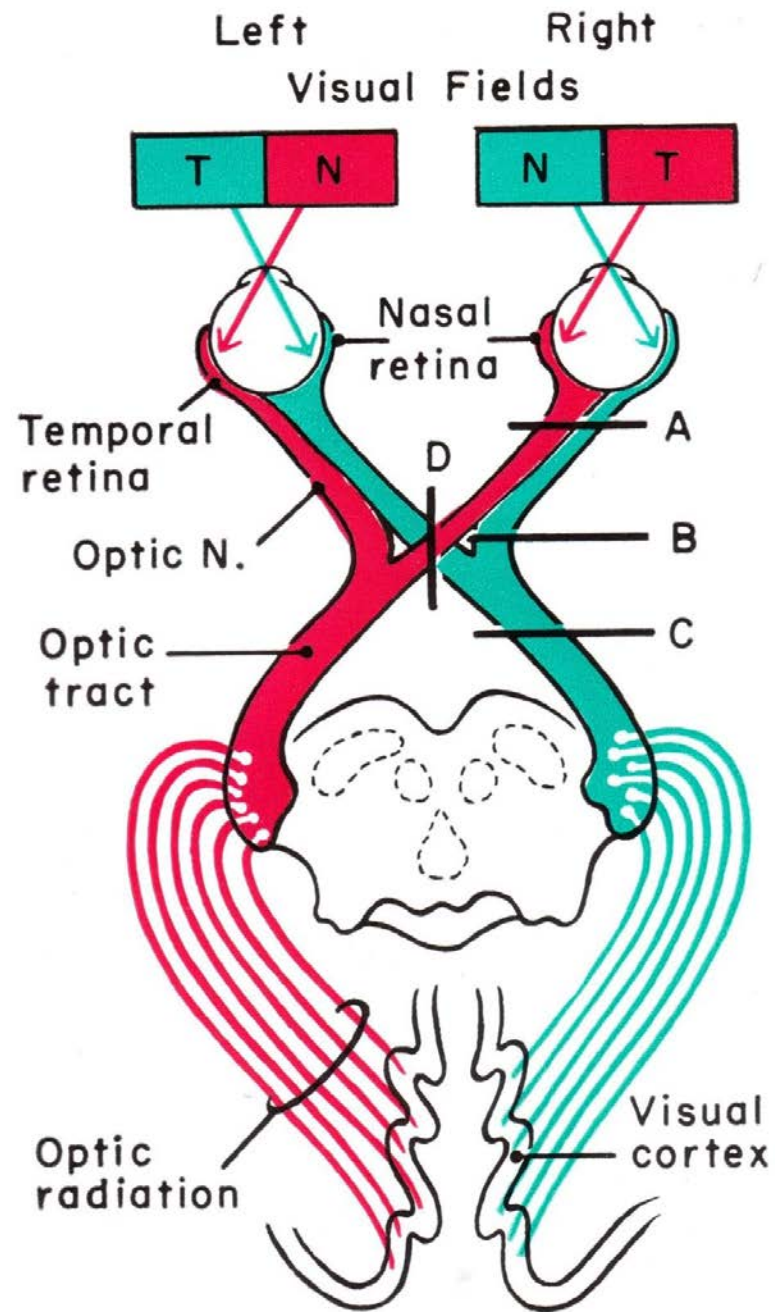
Lateral geniculate nucleus









Optic radiation

Primary visual cortex

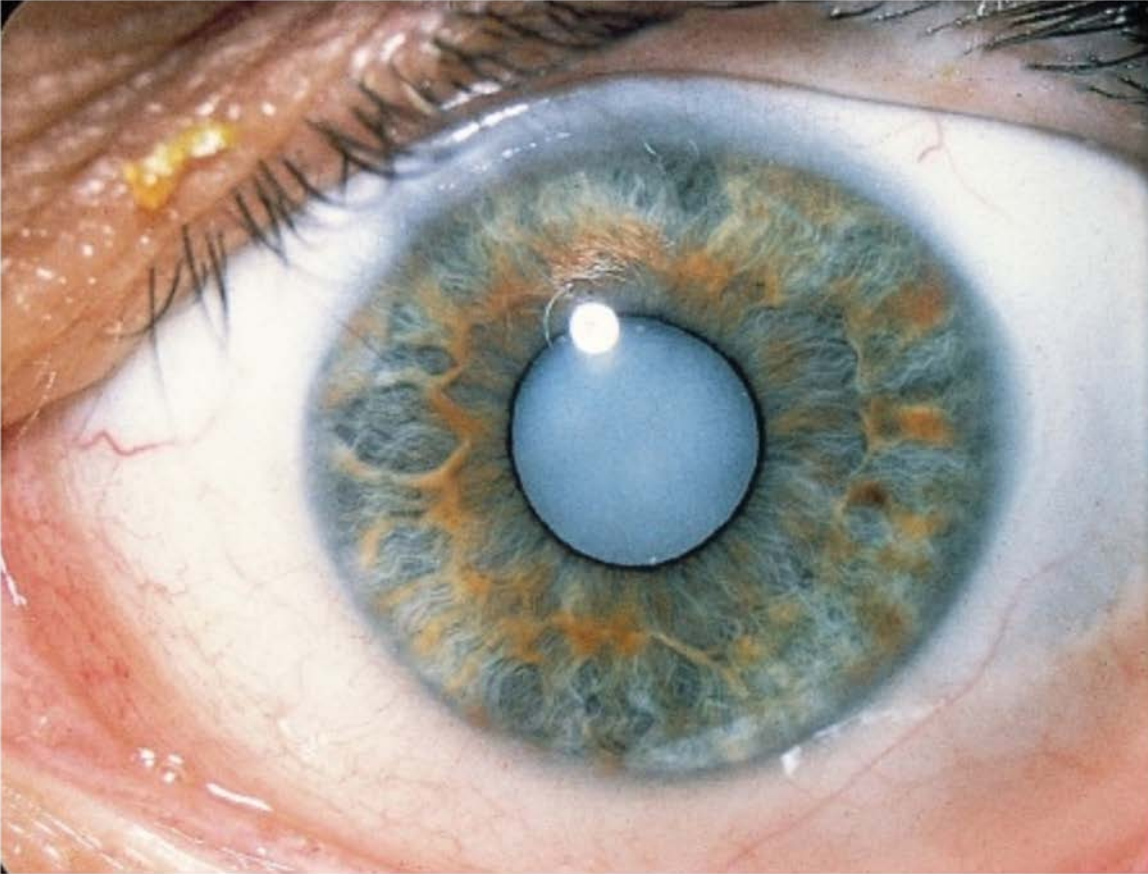
# Injuries to Visual Pathway





- | Left   | Right  |
|--|--|
| A   |   |
| Total blindness of right eye   |  |
| B   |   |
| Right nasal hemianopsia  |  |
| C   |   |
| Left homonymous hemianopsia  |  |
| D  |  |
| Bitemporal heteronymous hemianopsia  |  |

# Cataract of the crystalline lens



## Age of onset

- Congenital
- Age-related

## Location

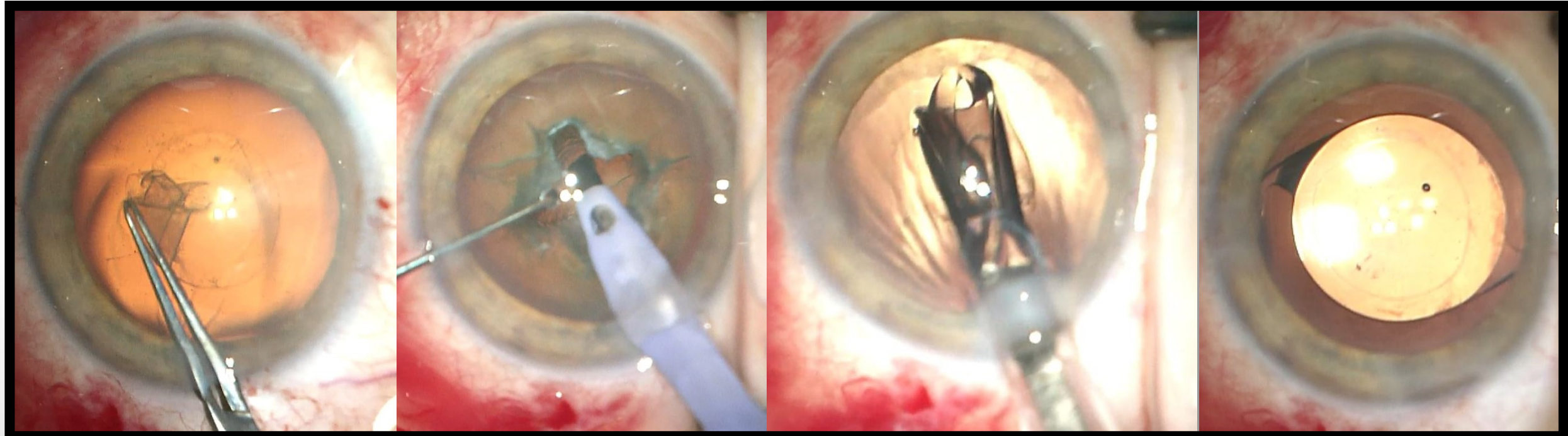
- Nuclear sclerotic
- Cortical
- Posterior
- Subcapsular

## Cause

- Age-related
- Traumatic
- Diabetic



# Phacoemulsification cataract surgery



Capsulorrhexis

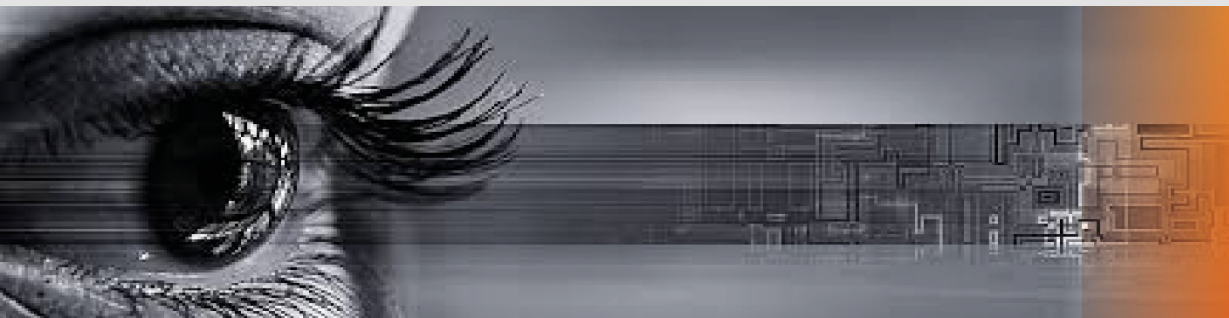
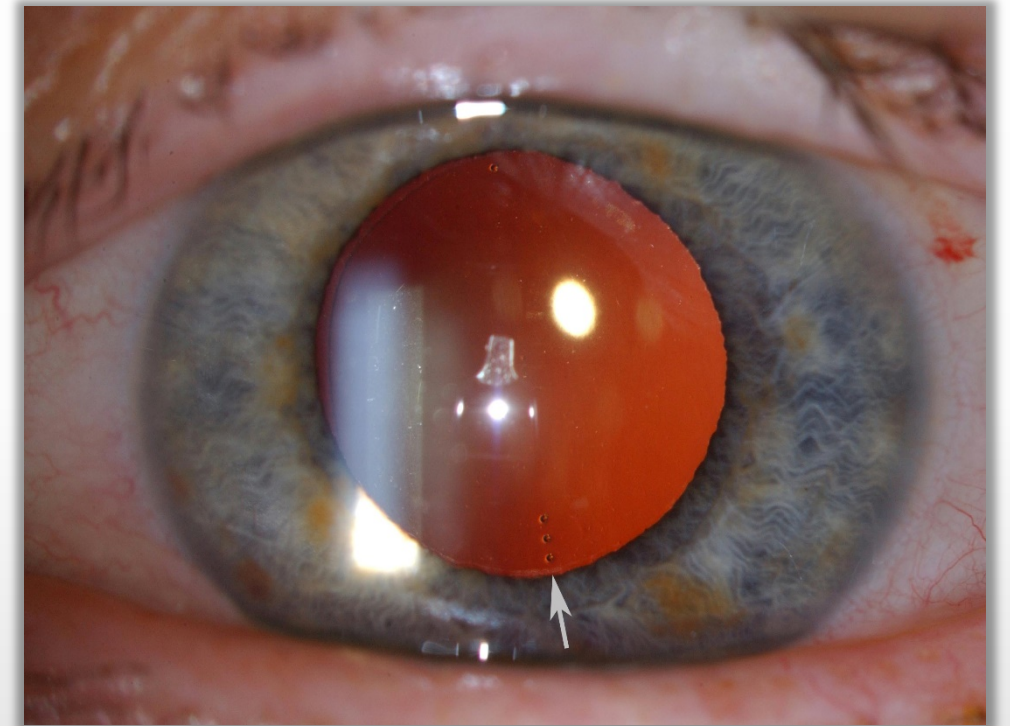
Phacoemulsification

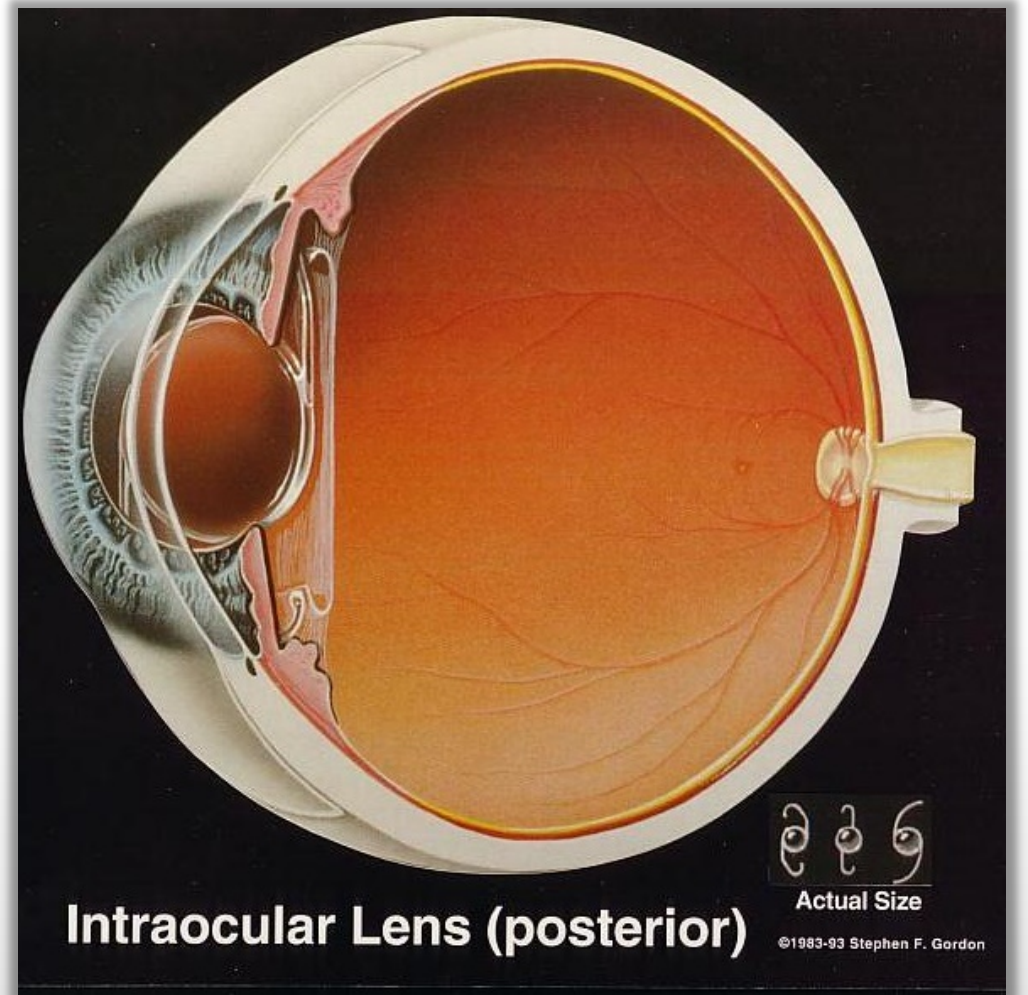
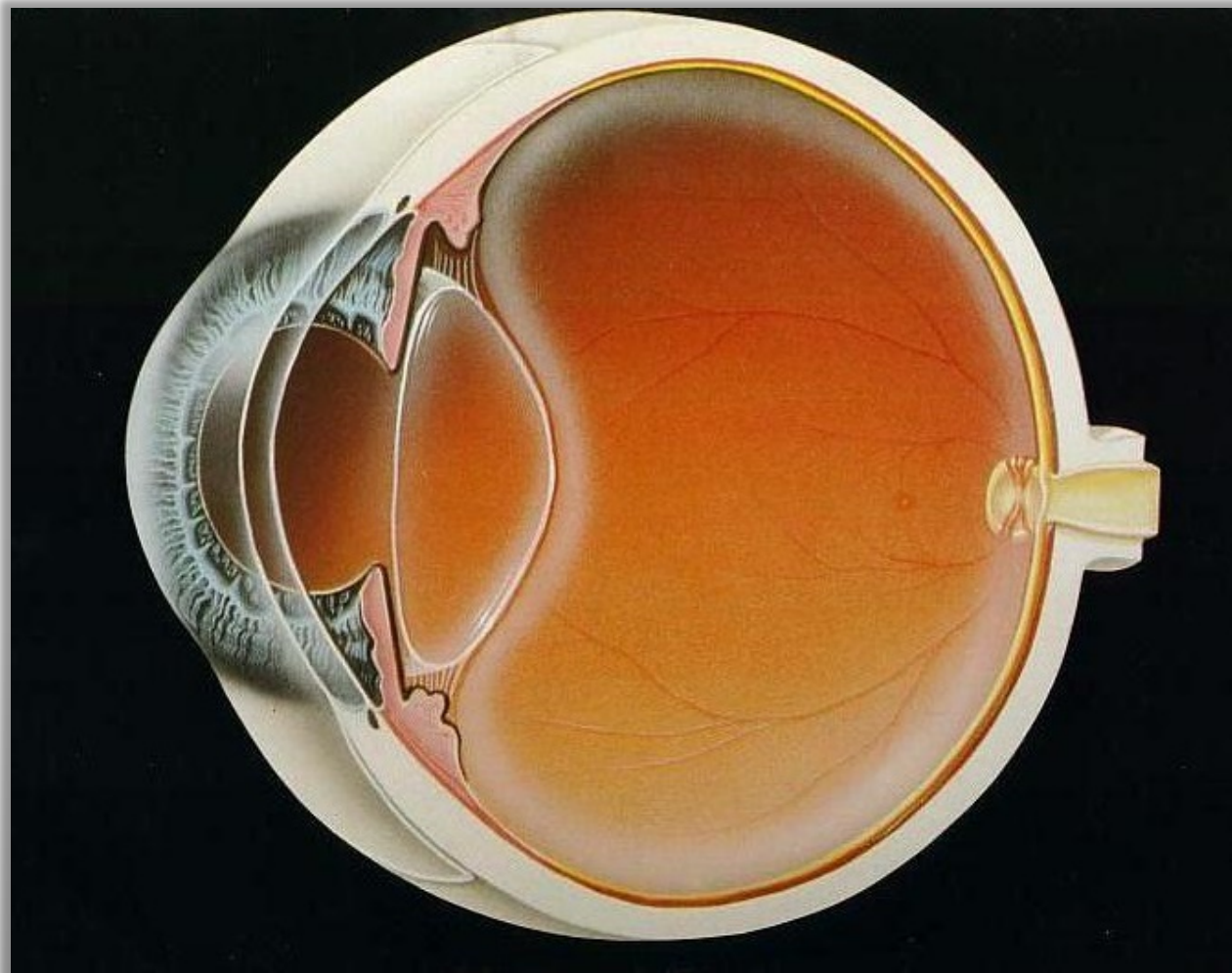
Injection of foldable IOL

IOL in capsular bag



# Intra-ocular lens (multifocal and toric)





Long thought extinct living **takahē** were rediscovered in an expedition led by **Invercargill** based ophthalmologist & ENT physician Dr **Geoffrey Orbell** near **Lake Te Anau** in the **Murchison Mountains**, in 1948.



# Translational Vision Research



Department of Ophthalmology

## The End

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