

Neuro-Ophthalmology: Case After Case...

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- **Disclosures:**

- Consultant for Gensight, Santhera and Stealth
- Research support: Gensight, Santhera and NIH
- Data Safety Committee: Quark NAION clinical trial
- Most illustrations are from **Neuro-Ophthalmology Illustrated**, Thieme 2019, 3rd edition

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Neuro-Ophthalmology: Case After Case...

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HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY



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19 yo woman with visual loss

- Past medical history: Obese
- Meds: None
- No tobacco, no alcohol

- Family history: Unremarkable

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19 yo woman with visual loss

- Past 2 weeks:
 - severe headaches
 - Rapidly progressive visual loss OU
 - Diplopia

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Examination

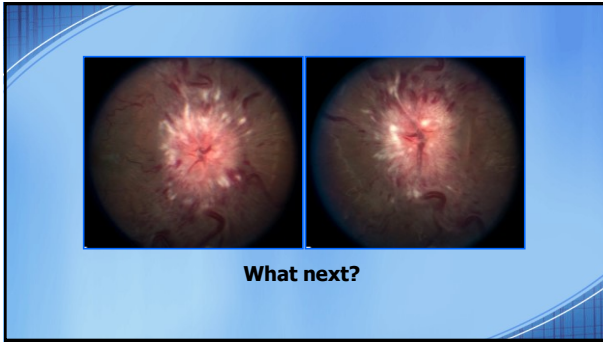
	Right eye	Left eye
Visual acuity	20/30	20/20
Color vision	13/14	14/14
SLE/IOP	Normal	Normal
Pupils	No RAPD	No RAPD
Lids	Normal	Normal

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Extraocular Movements: Abduction deficit / Esotropia



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- Visual field testing
- Blood pressure 118/66

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She needs

- Neurologic examination
- General examination
- Blood pressure
- Brain MRI with Gadolinium
- Brain MRV with Gadolinium
- Lumbar puncture if imaging normal

- Immediately

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Send her to Emergency Department

- In hospital with:
 - Neurology
 - Neurosurgery
 - Neuroradiology
 - Available 24/7
 - And... Neuro-ophthalmologist

- Warn Neuro-Ophthalmologist and ED

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Evaluation

- Normal neurologic examination
- Blood pressure: 122/72
- Brain MRI with Gadolinium: Normal
- Brain MRV: Normal (signs of raised ICP)
- Lumbar puncture:
 - Opening pressure: 63 cm H₂O
 - Normal CSF contents
- No anemia, no sleep apnea, no medications

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Fulminant Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension

- Acetazolamide 500 mg bid
- Dramatic improvement of headaches and diplopia after lumbar puncture
- Consult Neurosurgery

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Fulminant Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension

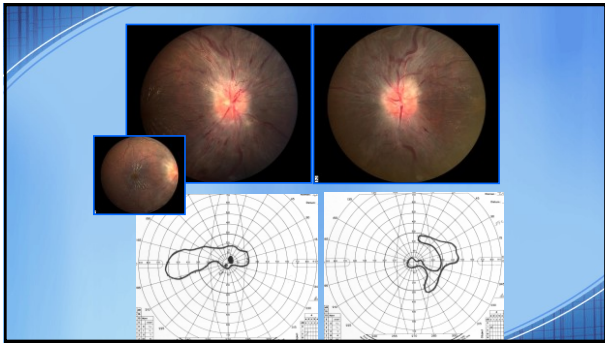
- 12 hours later: recurrence of headaches and diplopia
 - VA: 20/400 right eye, 20/50 left eye
 - Lumbar drain
- Lumbo-peritoneal shunt next day

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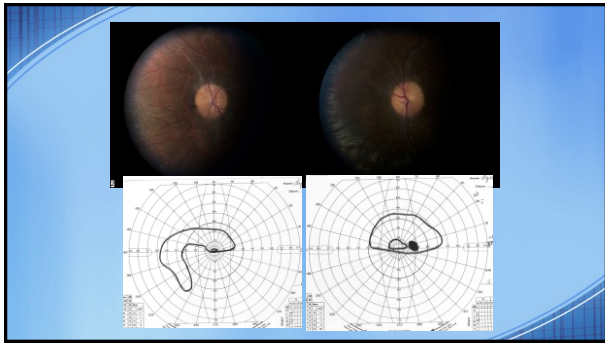
Examination 1 week later

	Right eye	Left eye
VA	20/50	20/40
Color vision	14/14	14/14
SLE/IOP	Normal	Normal
Pupils	No RAPD	No RAPD
EOMs	Full	Full

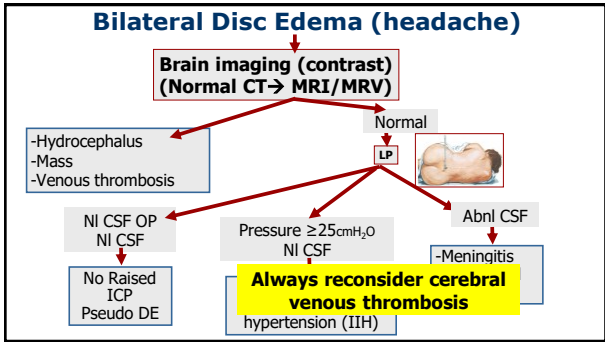
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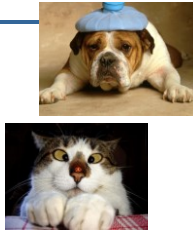
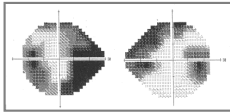
Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension

- Isolated intracranial hypertension
 - Headaches
 - Papilledema
 - Diplopia (VIth)
 - Tinnitus
- MRI rules out intracranial process and venous thrombosis
- Lumbar puncture confirms high CSF OP and normal CSF contents

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Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension Evaluation

- Severity of headaches
- Diplopia
- Visual function



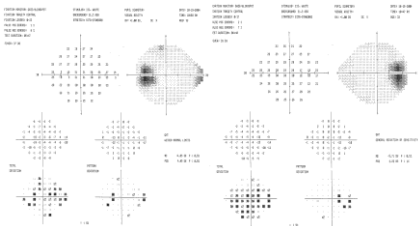
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Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension Management

- **Prognosis**
 - Rapid onset
 - Patient's characteristics
 - Severe obesity, black race, male gender
 - Anemia / sleep apnea syndrome / HTN
 - Visual function
 - Visual acuity, color vision
 - Visual field (automated perimetry, Goldmann perimetry)

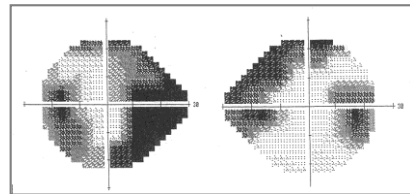
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Raised ICP and Papilledema Visual Field Testing



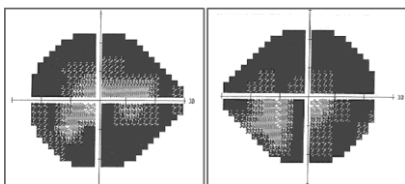
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Raised ICP and Papilledema Visual Field Testing

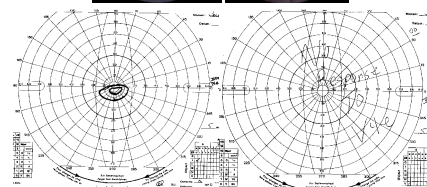
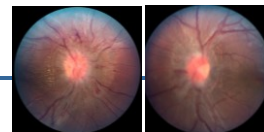


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Raised ICP and Papilledema Visual Field Testing



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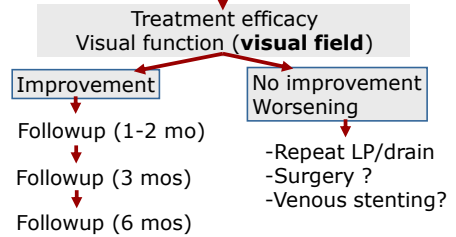
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Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension Management

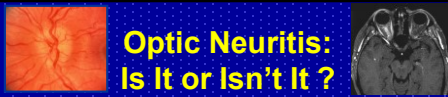
- **Follow-up/Treatment**
 - Lumbar puncture(1st treatment)
 - Correct precipitation factors
 - Drug, anemia, sleep apnea, ...
 - Weight loss (long term)
 - Acetazolamide (1-3 grams/day)

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Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension Followup/Treatment (1-2 weeks)



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A 39 y/o man with visual loss right eye

Past Medical History: hypertension, cigs

Medications: atenolol

Family History: Unremarkable

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5 weeks ago:
- progressive, painless visual loss OD
over 4-5 days

No previous visual loss or neurologic
symptoms

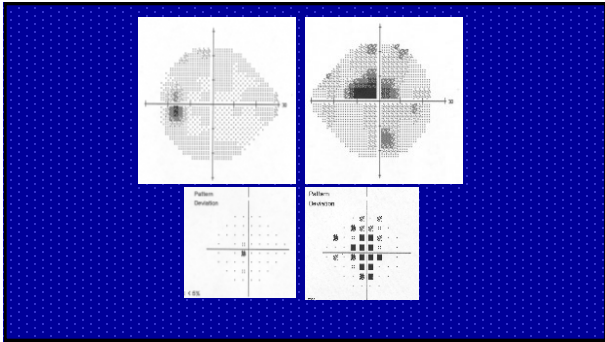
No improvement

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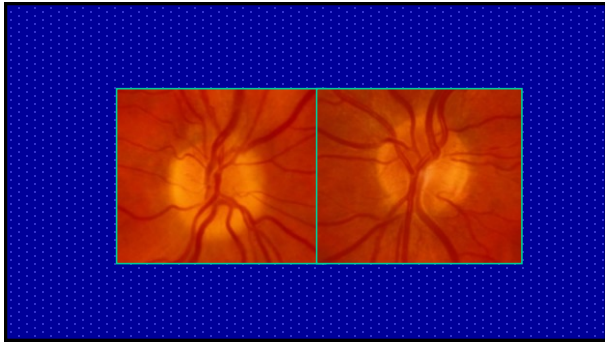
Examination:

Vision:	20/200	20/20
Color:	Control	14/14
Orbits:	Normal	Normal
SLE:	Normal	Normal
IOPs:	14	14
Pupils:	Pharmacologically Dilated	

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Is It Optic Neuritis?

- Macular disease
- A different cause of optic neuropathy

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Optic Neuritis
Typical Idiopathic

- Inflammation of the optic nerve
- F:M 3:1
- Age: 15-45
- Pain on eye movement
- Normal or swollen disc
- Spontaneous improvement
- Associated with multiple sclerosis

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Optic Neuritis Mimickers

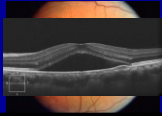
- Macular disease

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	<u>Optic Neuritis</u>	<u>CSR</u>
Sex	Female	Male
Pain	Yes	No
Field	Central	Central
Pupil	RAPD	No RAPD
Fundus	Nerve nl/edema	Blister

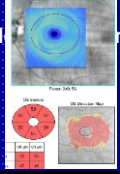
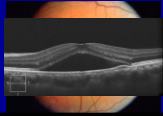
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	<u>Optic Neuritis</u>	<u>CSR</u>
Sex	Female	Male
Pain	Yes	No
Field	Central	Central
Pupil	RAPD	No RAPD
Fundus	Nerve nl/edema	Blister



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	<u>Optic Neuritis</u>	<u>CSR</u>
Sex	Female	Male
Pain	Yes	No
Field	Central	Central
Pupil	No RAPD	No RAPD
Fundus	Normal	Blister

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Is It Optic Neuritis?





- A different cause of optic neuropathy

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Optic Neuropathy

Causes

- Inflammatory
- Vascular
- Compressive/Infiltrative
- Hereditary
- Toxic/Nutritional
- Traumatic
- Elevated intracranial pressure
- Elevated intraocular pressure










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Optic Neuritis

DDx

- Inflammatory
- Vascular
- Compressive/Infiltrative
- Hereditary
- Toxic/Nutritional
- Traumatic
- Elevated intracranial pressure
- Elevated intraocular pressure


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Optic Neuritis Mimickers

- Anterior ischemic optic neuropathy
- Compressive optic neuropathy
- Leber hereditary optic neuropathy
- Other inflammatory/infectious optic neuritis



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	<u>Optic Neuritis</u>	<u>NAION</u>
Sex	Female	Either
Age	Younger	Older
Pain	Yes	No
Field	Central	Altitudinal
Fundus	Nerve nl/edema	Nerve edema
MRI	Nerve enhances	Nerve nl
Course	Improves	No change




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	<u>Optic Neuritis</u>	<u>Compressive</u>
Sex	Female	Either
Age	Younger	Any
Pain	Yes	No
Field	Central	Central/Temporal
Fundus	Nerve nl/edema	Nerve nl/edema
MRI	Nerve enhances	Nerve tumor
Course	Improves	Same/worse

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	<u>Optic Neuritis</u>	<u>Leber HON</u>
Sex	Female	Male
Pain	Yes	No
Field	Central	Central
Bilateral	No	Yes
Course	Improves	Severe loss
MRI	Nerve enhances	Nerve nl
Fundus	Nerve nl/edema	Pseudoedema



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	<u>Op Neuritis</u>	<u>NAION</u>	<u>Compressive</u>	<u>Leber HON</u>
Age	Younger	Older	Any	Younger
Gender	F > M	M = F	M = F	M > F
Fam Hx	No or MS	No	No	Yes
Bilateral?	<10% at 1yr	<10% at 1yr	No	100% at 1yr
Onset	Rapid	Rapid	Slow	Subacute
Pain?	++ (w EOM)	Rare	No	No
Color	Poor	Often spared	Poor	Poor
Visual Field	Central	Altitudinal	Central/temp	Cecocentral
Optic Nerve	N /edema	Edema	Nl/edema	Nl/pseudo
MRI	Abnl ON	Normal	Tumor	Normal
Prognosis	Good	Poor	Poor (if no Rx)	Poor
Systemic	MS	HTN/DM	None	None




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	<u>Op Neuritis</u>	<u>NAION</u>	<u>Compressive</u>	<u>Leber HON</u>
Age	Younger	Older	Any	Younger
Gender	F > M	M = F	M = F	M > F
Fam Hx	No or MS	No	No	Yes
Bilateral?	<10% at 1yr	<10% at 1yr	No	100% at 1yr
Onset	Rapid	Rapid	Slow	Subacute
Pain?	++ (w EOM)	Rare	No	No
Color	Poor	Often spared	Poor	Poor
Visual Field	Central	Altitudinal	Central/temp	Cecocentral
Optic Nerve	N /edema	Edema	Nl/edema	Nl/pseudo
MRI	Abnl ON	Normal	Tumor	Normal
Prognosis	Good	Poor	Poor (if no Rx)	Poor
Systemic	MS	HTN/DM	None	None

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Optic Neuritis Typical Idiopathic

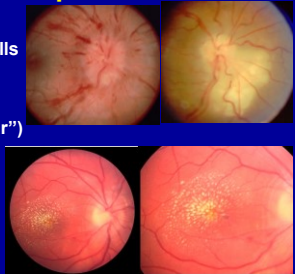
- Inflammation of the optic nerve
- F:M 3:1
- Age: 15-45
- Pain on eye movement
- Normal or swollen disc
- Spontaneous improvement
- Associated with multiple sclerosis

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Atypical Optic Neuritis

- Bilateral
- Intra-ocular cells
- Disc swelling
- Hemorrhages
- Exudates ("star")

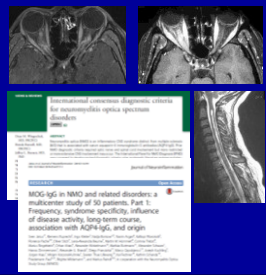


- Sarcoidosis
- Bartonella
- Syphilis
- Tuberculosis
- Viral

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Atypical Optic Neuritis

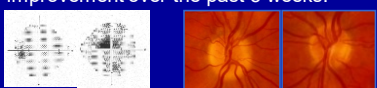
- Bilateral
- Severe
- No recovery
- Recurrent



- AQP4 (NMO) Abs
- MOG Abs

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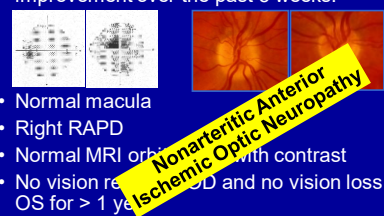
A 39 y/o man with painless visual loss OD to 20/200 over 5 days, past history of HTN, no family history of visual loss, and no improvement over the past 5 weeks.



- Normal macula
- Right RAPD
- Normal MRI orbits/brain with contrast
- No vision recovery OD and no vision loss OS for > 1 year

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A 39 y/o man with painless visual loss OD to 20/200 over 5 days, past history of HTN, no family history of visual loss, and no improvement over the past 5 weeks.



- Normal macula
- Right RAPD
- Normal MRI orbits/brain with contrast
- No vision recovery OD and no vision loss OS for > 1 year

Nonarteritic Anterior Ischemic Optic Neuropathy

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- ♦ 37-yo woman with visual loss OS
- ♦ PMHx:
 - ♦ 2 normal pregnancies
 - ♦ 2 abortions
- ♦ Fam Hx:
 - ♦ Unremarkable

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- ♦ Visual loss OS:
 - ♦ Central shadow
 - ♦ Progression over 5 days
 - ♦ Pain with eye movements
- ♦ No associated neurologic or systemic symptoms

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Examination

- BP: 116/74, RR 67
- Neurologic examination normal

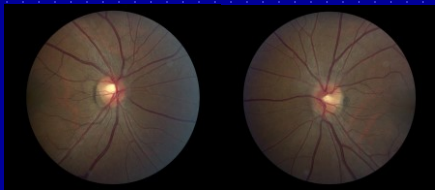
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Examination

	OD	OS
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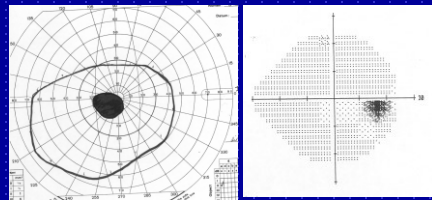
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Fundus



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Visual Fields



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Diagnosis ?

- Optic neuropathy OS
- Retrobulbar
- Inflammatory
- « Idiopathic optic neuritis »

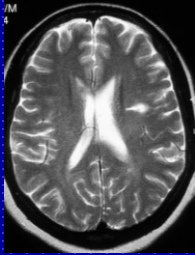
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What next ?

- Refer

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Brain MRI



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Work-up

- Negative syphilis testing
- Normal ACE
- Negative AQP4/MOG antibodies

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Management-

- 3 days IV methylprednisolone (250 mg q6 hours)
- 10 days oral prednisone (taper)

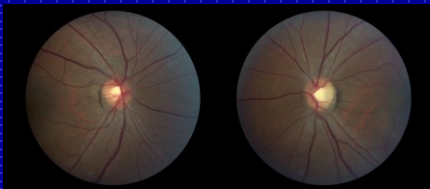
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Follow-up: 6 weeks later

	OD	OS
• VA	20/20	20/40
• Color	14/14	2/14
• Orbits	Normal	Normal
• Lids	Normal	Normal
• IOP	14	15
• SLE	Normal	Normal
• Pupils	Normal	+ RAPD
• EOM	Full	Full

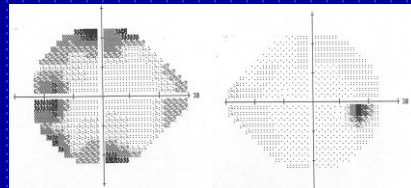
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Follow-up: 6 weeks later



65

Follow-up: 6 weeks later



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Patient's Questions...

- Are you sure it is an optic neuritis?
- Is it idiopathic demyelinating optic neuritis?
- Do I have MS ?
- What is my risk of MS ?
- How should I be treated ?

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What next ?

- Refer

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- 51 yo woman with visual loss in left eye
- PMHx:
 - Breast cancer 11 years prior (lumpectomy, radiation, chemotherapy, neg lymph nodes)
 - Hypertension, borderline diabetes
 - Migraine headaches (no aura)
- Medications:
 - Hydrochlorothiazide, aspirin 81, vitamins, ibuprofen prn

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HPI

- Followed by neurologist for episodes of tingling of both legs and occasionally left arm shaking
 - Normal brain MRI
 - Scheduled for electromyography
- Saw optometrist for annual visit:
 - Decreased vision left eye
 - Left optic nerve pallor
 - => "Left optic neuritis"

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- Neurologist:
 - Cancelled electromyography
 - Repeated brain MRI (normal)
 - Planned LP for possible multiple sclerosis
- Patient:
 - Panicked
 - Refused LP
 - Second opinion

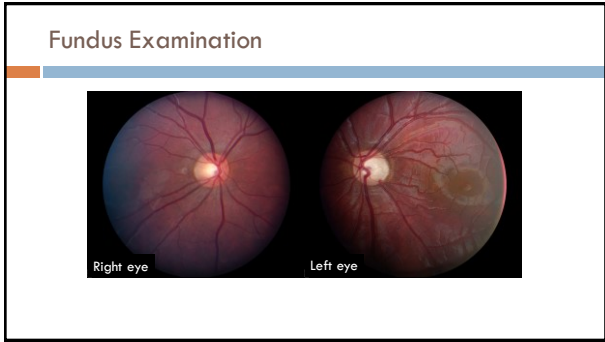
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Neuro-Ophthalmology

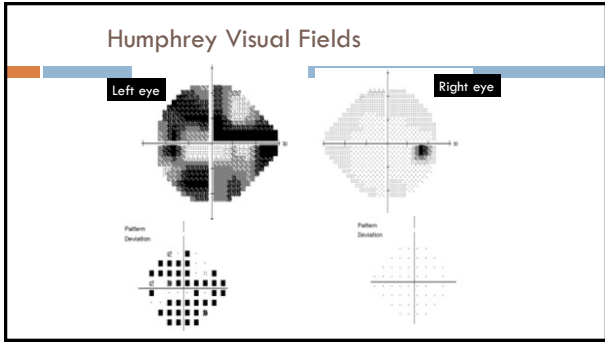
- BP: 148/92. BMI 32

	Right eye	Left eye
□ Visual acuity	20/20	20/40-
□ Color vision	14/14	3/14
□ Slit lamp	Mild cataracts	
□ IOP	12	13
□ Pupils	Normal	RAPD++
□ Eye movements	Full	Full

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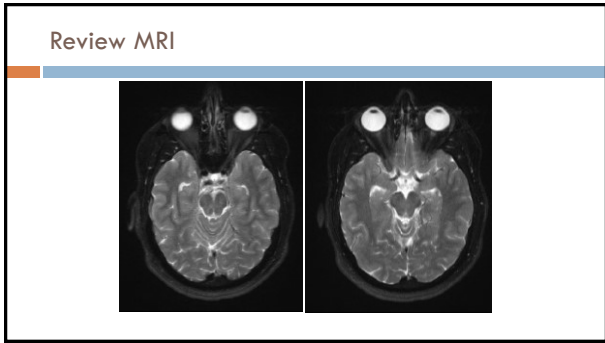
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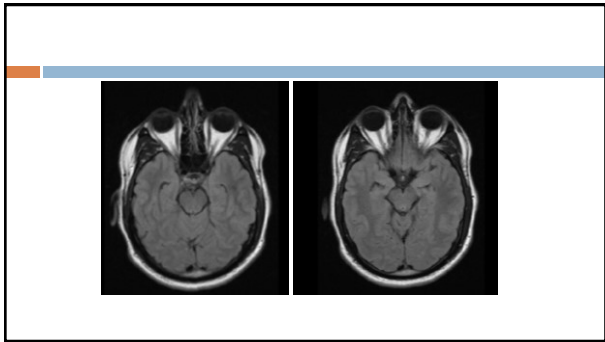
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- ### Diagnosis
- Left optic neuropathy (chronic)
 - Incidentally found
 - No pain

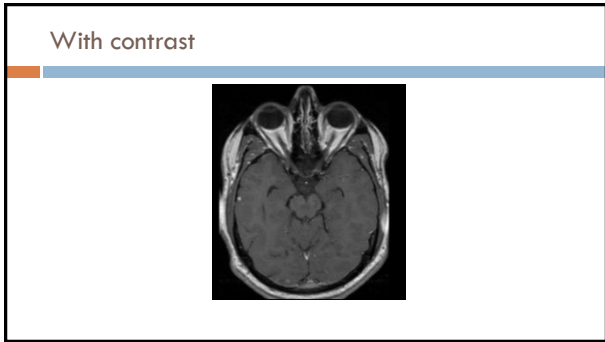
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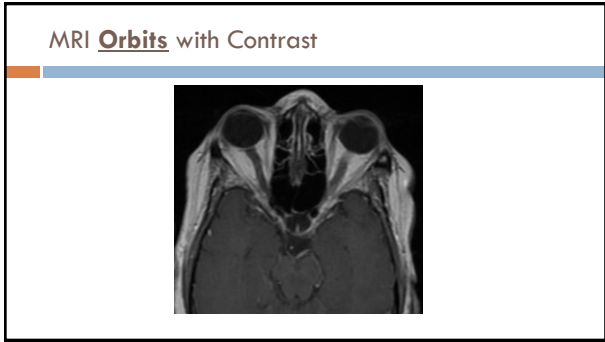
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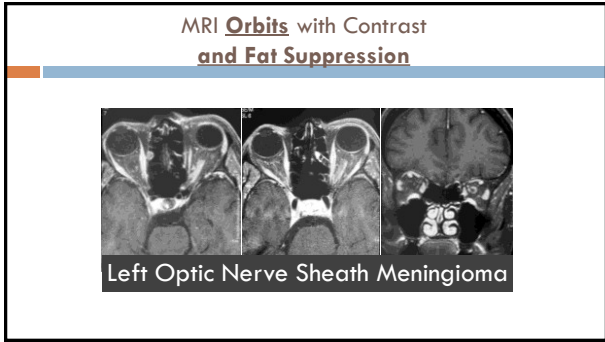
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- ♦ 20-yo WM with visual loss in both eyes
- ♦ PMHx
 - ♦ Unremarkable
- ♦ Fam Hx:
 - ♦ Unremarkable
- ♦ College student – no ETOH or drugs

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- ♦ Age 8: told he had « swelling OU » during routine examination
 - ♦ Asymptomatic
 - ♦ Observed yearly, without change

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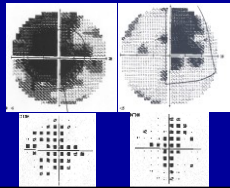
- ♦ Age 20 (8 months prior seeing us)
 - ♦ Sudden, painless visual loss OS
 - ♦ VA: 20/20 OD; 20/200 OS
 - ♦ “Swelling” OS
-

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- ♦ MRI brain/orbits: normal
- ♦ CBC, bartonella, toxo, RPR, FTA: normal or negative

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- ♦ 3 months later:
- ♦ Visual loss OD
- ♦ VA: 20/100 OD; CF OS



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- ♦ Repeat MRI: normal
- ♦ « More blood tests » : all normal
- ♦ Lumbar puncture:
 - ♦ OP: 16 cm
 - ♦ CSF contents: normal

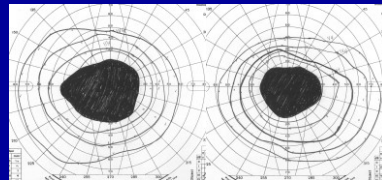
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Examination 2 months later

	OD	OS
♦ VA	CF	CF
♦ Col Vis	No control	No control
♦ Orbit	Normal	Normal
♦ Lid	Normal	Normal
♦ IOP	14	15
♦ SLE	Normal	Normal
♦ Pupils	Normal	1.2 RAPD
♦ EOM	Full	Full

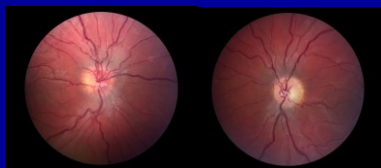
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Goldmann Visual Fields



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Fundus



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Work-up

- ♦ Leber's hereditary optic neuropathy:
 - ♦ 3 primary mutations:
 - ♦ mt DNA 11778
 - ♦ mt DNA 14484
 - ♦ mt DNA 3460
- ♦ Negative

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Work-up

- Blood sent to lab with expertise in LHON
- Complete sequencing of mtDNA
 - 10 mutations found
 - Including, novel mtDNA mutation at np 12848 (heteroplasmic)
 - Alters complex 1

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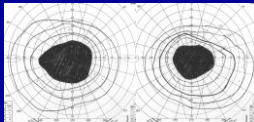
Leber's Hereditary Optic Neuropathy

- Subacute sequential bilateral central visual loss
- Age of onset typically 18-30 (range 1-87)
- Male predominance (80-90%)
- Progression in each eye over weeks to months
- Recognized interval between eyes in 50% (days to months)
- > 97% bilateral within 1 year

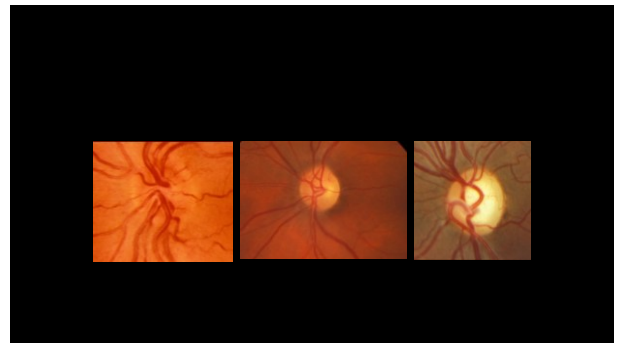
92

Leber's Hereditary Optic Neuropathy

- Acuity usually worse than 20/200
- Color vision affected early
- Central or cecocentral defects



93

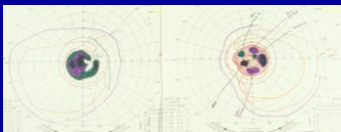


94

Leber's Hereditary Optic Neuropathy

Spontaneous Recovery

- May occur years later
- 4% - 71%
- Depends on the mtDNA mutation
- More likely if visual loss before age 20 (esp <10)



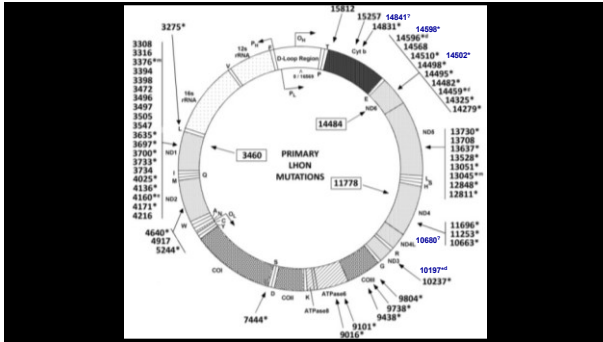
95

Leber's Hereditary Optic Neuropathy

Associated Findings

- Cardiac conduction defects
- Minor neurologic abnormalities
- Multiple sclerosis-like illness
- More severe neurologic syndromes

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Leber Hereditary Optic Neuropathy

Determinants of Phenotype

- Genotype
 - the mutation
 - heteroplasmy
- MtDNA factors
- Nuclear factors
- Environmental factors

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Hereditary Optic Neuropathies

Treatment

- Genetic counseling
- Symptomatic
- Disease-modifying
 - Mitochondrial diseases
 - Hereditary optic neuropathies
- Idebenone (900mg/d) (ongoing clinical trial)
- Gene therapy (ongoing clinical trials)

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Mitochondrial Diseases

Symptomatic Treatment

- Improve quality of life: reading, navigating, communication, employment, driving
- Low-vision aids
- Avoid mitochondrial toxicity:
 - Tobacco use
 - ? Heavy alcohol use
 - Meds with mitochondrial toxicity
 - Environmental toxins

100

Hereditary Optic Neuropathies

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- Genetic counseling
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 - Mitochondrial diseases
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- Gene therapy (ongoing clinical trials)

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MtDNA Mitochondrial Disorders

Treatment – Nuclear Transfer

- Oocyte nuclear spindle replacement
- Pronuclear transfer between zygotes

(Tachibana M, et al. Nature 2009;461:367-372)
(Craven L, et al. Nature 2010;465:82-85)

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Leber Hereditary Optic Neuropathy

Treatment

- Ideal "laboratory" for testing treatment efficacy
- Sequential visual loss: therapeutic window
- Accessibility via topical or intravitreal route
- Implications for other optic neuropathies

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Leber Hereditary Optic Neuropathy

Treatment – Gene Therapy

- Allotopic Rescue

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RESCUE & REVERSE Phase 3 Trials:

Time-based strategy to assess GS010 efficacy

Different patient inclusion criteria

REVERSE
 Onset of vision loss 6 months to ≤ 1 yr
 33 patients
 Fully enrolled Feb 2017

RESCUE
 Onset of vision loss ≤ 6 months
 39 patients
 Fully enrolled July 2017

Same design

- One eye randomized to GS010; other eye received sham injection; "best" eye treated half the time

Group 1
 GS010 in right eye / SHAM in left eye

Group 2
 SHAM in right eye / GS010 in left eye

Same endpoints at Week 48

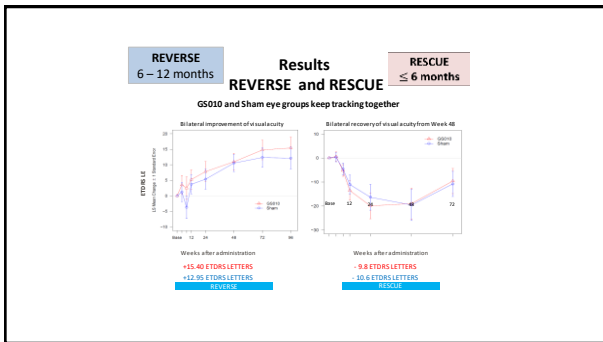
Primary

- Mean difference change from baseline, ETRDS letters, drug treated eyes vs. sham treated eyes (LogMAR)

Secondary

- SD-OCT, visual field, color and contrast vision
- Responder analysis: Gain from baseline of ≥ 15 ETRDS letters
- Smellen acuity ≥ 20/200
- Treated vs. sham eyes BCVA for best-seeing and worst-seeing eyes

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REFLECT Phase 3 trial:

Assess efficacy and safety of bilateral injection

Patient inclusion criteria

- 98 subjects with vision loss ≤ 1 year
- 49 subjects received bilateral GS010
- 49 subjects received GS010 IVT one eye, placebo in the other
- Fully enrolled July 2019

Design

Group 1
 GS010 in 1st affected eye / GS010 in 2nd affected eye

Group 2
 GS010 in 1st affected eye / Placebo in 2nd affected eye

Endpoints at week 48

Primary

- Difference in change of vision compared to baseline between GS010 treated eye vs. placebo eye in and affected/not yet affected eyes (LogMAR)


Secondary

- Full-Field contrast sensitivity
- Humphrey visual fields
- Responder analyses
- Gain from baseline of ≥ 15 ETRDS letters
- Smellen acuity ≥ 20/200
- Spectral domain OCT
- Quality of life assessments

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From a Patient's Perspective

- Social media growth makes it easier for LHON patients and families to connect
 - Global LHON Facebook (4,000+)
 - Clinical database (3,400+ entries)
- Website and social media facilitate study trial recruitment with just a "click"



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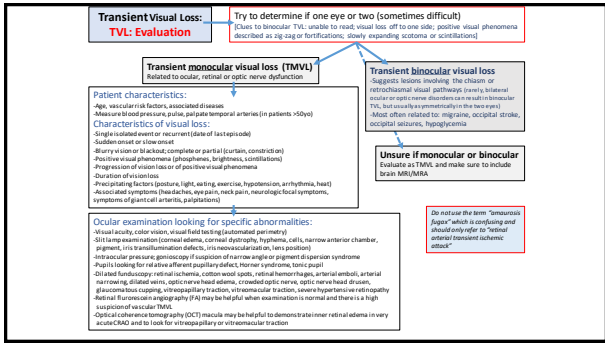
61 yo man

- With acute visual loss in one eye...

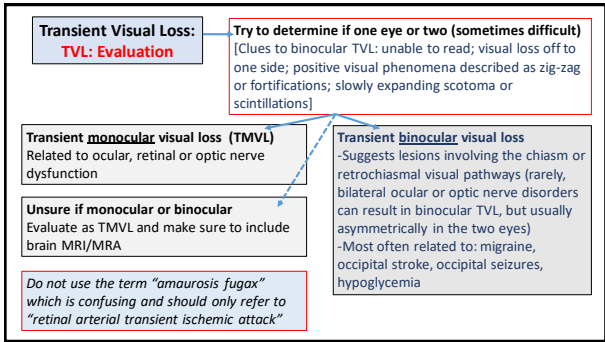
110

"My Vision Blacked Out!"

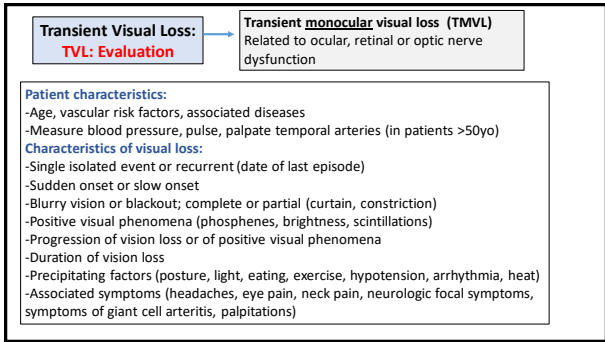
111



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Transient Visual Loss:
TVL: Evaluation


→ **Transient monocular visual loss (TMVL)**
Related to ocular, retinal or optic nerve dysfunction

Ocular examination looking for specific abnormalities:

- Visual acuity, color vision, visual field testing (automated perimetry)
- Slit lamp examination (corneal edema, corneal dystrophy, hyphema, cells, narrow anterior chamber, pigment, iris transillumination defects, iris neovascularization, lens position)
- Intraocular pressure; gonioscopy if suspicion of narrow angle or pigment dispersion
- Pupils looking for relative afferent pupillary defect, Horner syndrome, tonic pupil
- Dilated funduscopy: retinal ischemia, cotton wool spots, retinal hemorrhages, arterial emboli, arterial narrowing, dilated veins, optic nerve head edema, crowded optic nerve, optic nerve head drusen, glaucomatous cupping, vitreopapillary traction, vitreomacular traction, severe hypertensive retinopathy
- Retinal fluorescein angiography (FA) may be helpful when examination is normal and there is a high suspicion of vascular TMVL
- OCT macula helpful to demonstrate inner retinal edema in very acute CRAO and to look for vitreopapillary or vitreomacular traction

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Transient Monocular Visual Loss
Mechanisms and diagnosis of visual loss



TMVL is NOT migraine!

- .Migrainous visual aura is **always binocular** (originates in the occipital cortex: cortical depression). Often described as "on the side"
- .Positive visual phenomena: expanding zig-zag lines often followed by an enlarging scotoma (scintillating scotoma) highly suggestive of occipital origin
- .Lasts 20-30 minutes; changes sides with attacks; followed by headaches but may remain isolated. Typically recurrent with no sequelae

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Transient Monocular Visual Loss
Mechanisms and diagnosis of visual loss

Ocular causes of TMVL (non-vascular)
Related to ocular, retinal or optic nerve dysfunction

- Refractive error** (accommodative spasm, hyperglycemia)
- Ocular surface disease** (dry eyes, blepharitis, epiphora, contact lens)
- Blurry vision fluctuates, worse when focusing, better when blinking**
- Corneal edema, corneal dystrophy**
- Blurry vision common upon awakening**
- Anterior chamber inflammation/hyphema***
- Phakodonesis***
- Intermittent angle closure**
- Ocular pain common, but may be absent**
- Pigment dispersion syndrome***
- Young, myopic, blurry vision with exercise**
- Krukenberg spindles on cornea, pigmented angle**
- Vitreous hemorrhage*, vitreous floaters***
- Incomplete retinal detachment**
- Moving curtain**
- Vitreomacular traction**
- Vitreopapillary traction***
- Mechanical pressure on the eye (obstructive sleep apnea)**
- Smartphone blindness**
- Orbital mass (or thyroid eye disease)***
- Orbital vascular malformation**
- Abnormal optic nerve head (papilledema, optic nerve head drusen, crowded disc)**
- Transient visual obscurations*: very brief (seconds) blackouts of vision (often bilateral, but usually asymmetrically in the two eyes)**
- Previous optic neuropathy (usually optic neuritis)**
- Uhthoff's phenomenon: decreased vision (minutes to hours) precipitated by increased body heat (hot bath, exercise)**
- *Blurry vision precipitated by changes in position or eye movements**

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Vascular causes of TMVL
Related to arterial or venous ischemia of the retina, choroid, optic nerve or the entire eye.

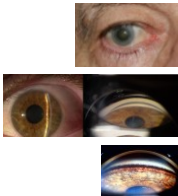
- Retinal arterial transient ischemic attack**
- Brief (minutes, not seconds), sudden, often complete blackout of vision, or curtain or constriction**
- Spasm of central retinal artery may produce isolated brief (minutes, not seconds), recurrent episodes of complete blackout of vision in young healthy people (diagnosis of exclusion)**
- Choroidal ischemia**
- TMVA is often described as "rain", "fog", "mist", "snow", "smoke" with purple colors (lasts often longer than retinal arterial ischemia)**
- Autofluorescence or indocyanine green (ICG) angiography helpful**
- Highly suggestive of vasculitis such as giant cell arteritis (GCA)**
- Impending central retinal vein occlusion**
- TMVA is longer (20-30 min) and incomplete, often described as "fog" or difficulty blurry**
- Dilation of retinal veins with often normal retina and optic nerve**
- Ocular ischemic syndrome**
- TMVA, lasts longer (30 min) and often precipitated by orthostasis, hypertension, acute paroxysmal, exercise, exposure to bright light.**
- Phosphenes, impaired dark adaptation common**
- May have ocular pain improving when lying down**
- Ischemic optic neuropathy**
- Optic nerve head edema (Anterior ischemic optic neuropathy)**
- Highly suggestive of vasculitis such as GCA (non-arteritic ischemic optic neuropathy never presents with TMVA)**
- May be isolated or with cotton wool spots, choroidal ischemia (GCA)**

117

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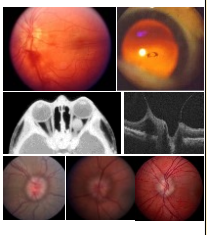
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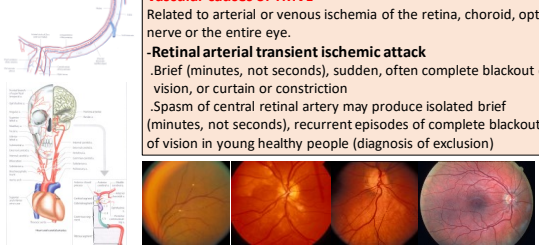


119

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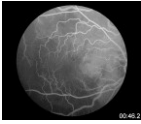


120

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Mechanisms and diagnosis
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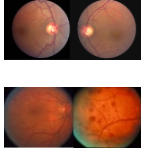
121

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Mechanisms and diagnosis
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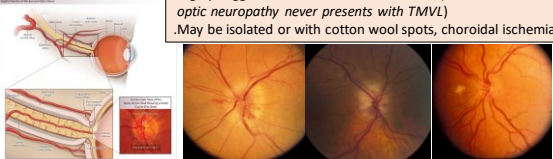


122

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Mechanisms and diagnosis
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-Ischemic optic neuropathy
.Optic nerve head edema if anterior ischemic optic neuropathy
.Highly suggestive of vasculitis such as **GCA** (*non-arteritic ischemic optic neuropathy never presents with TMVL*)
.May be isolated or with cotton wool spots, choroidal ischemia



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Transient Monocular Visual Loss TMVL: Management

Do NOT make a falsely reassuring diagnosis of migraine!
Do NOT assume it is central retinal artery vasospasm until other causes are ruled out

Slow down and take the time to take a good history (see Evaluation)
Ask patients to draw what they saw: if they draw fortifications/zig-zags, it may be binocular (migraine)

Slow down and perform a detailed ocular examination
Check the pupils yourself! Obtain a visual field if examination is normal. Consider retinal FA and OCT

Look for associated symptoms: eye pain, headache, neck pain, giant cell arteritis, neurologic symptoms
Measure blood pressure, check pulse for arrhythmia

Ocular or orbital cause → **Think giant cell arteritis**
Obtain immediate CBC, platelets, ESR, CRP

Patient > 50 yo

Abnormal → **Treat as GCA**
Intravenous high dose steroids
Temporal artery biopsy

Normal → **Vascular causes of TMVL – Is it?:**
-Retinal arterial transient ischemic attack
-Choroidal ischemia
-Impending central retinal vein occlusion
-Ocular ischemic syndrome / Venous stasis retinopathy
-Ischemic optic neuropathy (GCA)

Retinal examination normal or shows retinal emboli, retinal ischemia, ocular ischemic syndrome

Retinal arterial transient ischemic attack

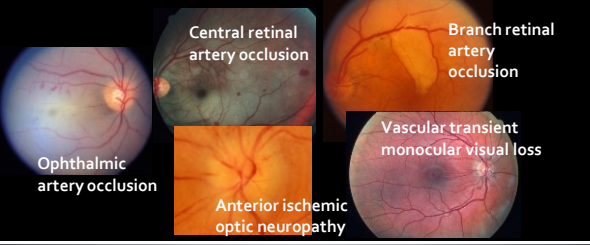
Follow the guidelines!
Immediate referral to closest emergency Stroke Center
Find it at: <https://www.ahajournals.org/doi/10.1161/STROKEAHA.118.048242>

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71 yo man

- With acute visual loss in one eye...

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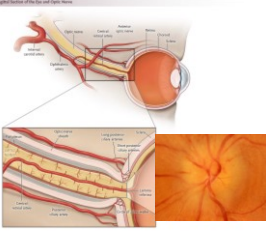


Acute arterial (optic nerve/retina) ischemia
Vascular arterial cause of visual loss

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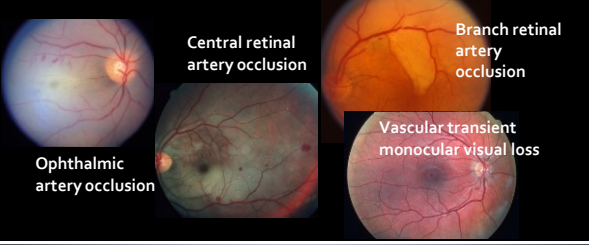
Anterior Ischemic Optic Neuropathy

- **Not the same kind of "stroke"**
 - Small vessel disease
- **Think giant cell arteritis:**
 - Older than 50 yo
 - Transient or permanent visual loss



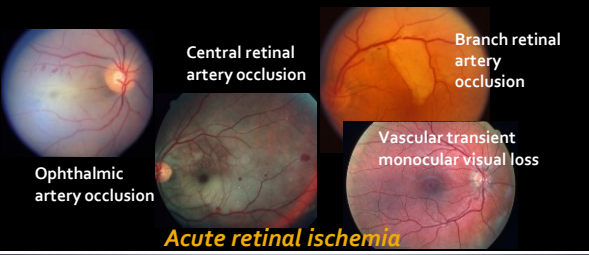
N Engl J Med 2015; 372:2428-2436

127



Acute retinal arterial ischemia

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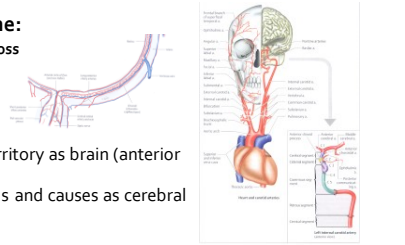


Acute retinal ischemia
Different visual outcomes
Same systemic implications

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Acute Retinal Arterial Ischemia

- **It's all the same:**
 - Transient visual loss
 - BRAO
 - CRAO
 - OAO
- Same vascular territory as brain (anterior circulation)
- Same mechanisms and causes as cerebral ischemia



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Acute Retinal Arterial Ischemia

GCA?

4 problems

Risk of stroke

Risk of cardio-vascular disease

Improve visual outcome

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Acute Retinal Arterial Ischemia

GCA?

4 problems

Risk of stroke

Risk of cardio-vascular disease

Improve visual outcome

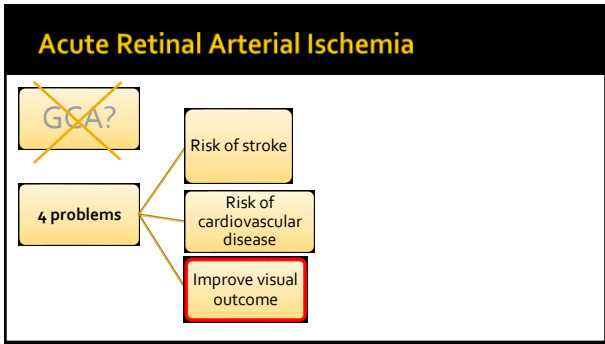
>50 yo

IMMEDIATELY:

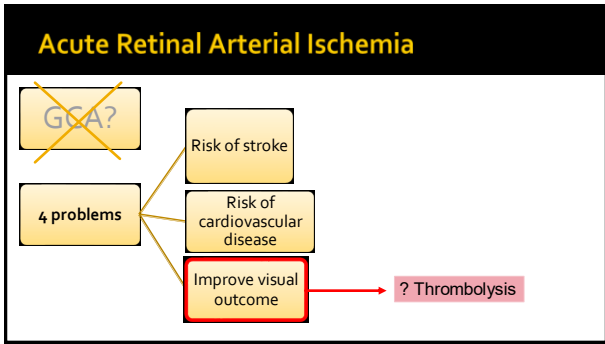
CBC, platelets

ESR, CRP

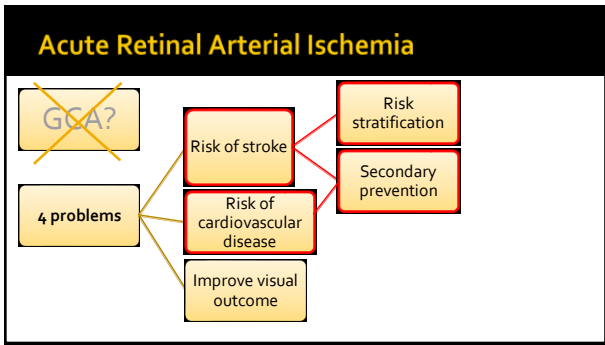
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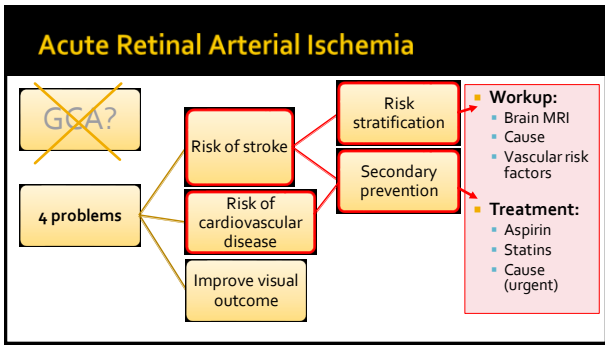
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Acute Retinal Ischemia (OAO/CRAO/BRAO/TVL)

- Risk of stroke highest within a few days after visual loss
- Urgent workup allows immediate identification of major cause associated with highest risk of stroke
 - Carotid atheromatous stenosis
 - Carotid dissection
 - Cardiac source of emboli (atrial fibrillation)

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International Guidelines

Stroke

AHA/ASA Guideline

Guidelines for the Prevention of Stroke in Patients With Stroke or Transient Ischemic Attack
A Guideline for Healthcare Professionals From the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association

Stroke. 2011;42:227-276; originally published online October 21, 2010:

“Any patient with suspected TIA or those with acute retinal ischemia should be evaluated urgently in order to identify those at high risk of immediate cerebral infarction and cardiac ischemia”

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10 Articles You Cannot Miss

2012 2020

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DWI-MRI In Acute Retinal TIA/Ischemia

- Up to 53% CRAO, 31% BRAO, 18% TMVL patients have a positive DWI-MRI
- DWI-MRI identifies a subgroup of patients at very high risk of major stroke
- DWI-MRI needs to be performed within 24/48 hours of visual loss to allow for effective prevention of recurrent stroke

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Management of Acute Retinal Ischemia
Follow the Guidelines!

Valérie Biousse, MD,^{1,2} Fadi Nahab, MD,^{2,3} Nancy J. Newman, MD,^{1,2,4}

**Acute retinal ischemia:
CRAO or BRAO = STROKE**

Supplementary material available at www.aao.org

GET WITH THE GUIDELINES. AMERICAN INSTITUTE ON AGING. WE'LL HELP YOU OBTAIN EACH.

American Heart Association American Stroke Association

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AAO 2016
Retinal and Ophthalmic Artery Occlusions PPP

HIGHLIGHTED FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CARE

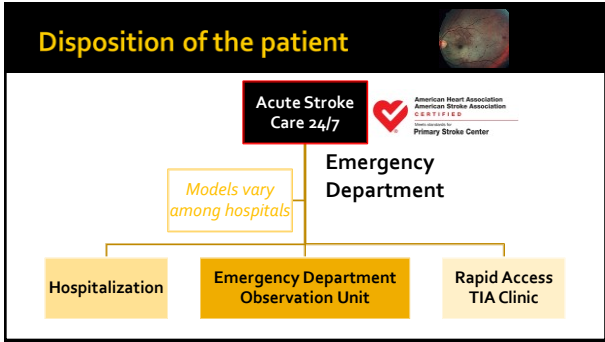
Acute symptomatic OphAO, CRAO or BRAO should prompt an **immediate** referral to the nearest stroke referral center for prompt assessment for consideration of an acute intervention

Retinal and Ophthalmic Artery Occlusions Preferred Practice Pattern*

143

How do you obtain an urgent evaluation?

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- ### Tell the patient:
- "Go to the Emergency Department"
 - "Tell them you had a stroke in the eye"
 - Do NOT send these patients to their primary care physician, cardiologist, neurologist, retina specialist, neuro-ophthalmologist
 - Do not try to obtain the workup yourself
-

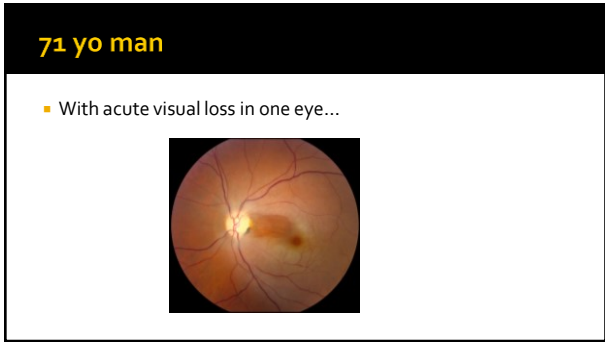
146

- ### Call the Emergency Department Triage Provider:
- "I am sending you a patient who had
 - A stroke in the eye
 - For immediate stroke workup and treatment by stroke neurology"
-

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- ### Acute Retinal Ischemia: What to Do?
- Educate and help your colleagues
 - Establish a network with closest Stroke Center and local stroke neurologist
- Management of Acute Retinal Ischemia**
Follow the Guidelines!
- Simple message:**
- 1) Make the correct diagnosis
 - 2) Send the patient immediately to a Stroke Center
-

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The next 24 hrs in the Emergency Department...

Seen in the Emergency Department 13 hours after acute visual loss

- Normal GCA labs
- No thrombolysis

Cardiac monitoring, observation, brain MRI/MRA, Neurologist, echo

- 3 hours later, right hemiparesis and aphasia

Left carotid occlusion and left cerebral (MCA) infarction

- Thrombectomy / thrombolysis
- Good neurologic outcome

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Acute Retinal Ischemia: What to Do?

- Educate and help your colleagues
- Establish a network with closest Stroke Center and local stroke neurologist

- **Simple message:**
 - 1) Make the correct diagnosis
 - 2) Send the patient immediately to a Stroke Center

FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES !!

Management of Acute Retinal Ischemia
 Follow the guidelines for the management of acute retinal ischemia (ARI) as outlined in the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) Preferred Practice Patterns (PPP) for the Management of Acute Retinal Ischemia (ARI). The AAO PPP for the Management of Acute Retinal Ischemia (ARI) is available at <http://www.aao.org/eye-base/guidelines/management-of-acute-retinal-ischemia>. The AAO PPP for the Management of Acute Retinal Ischemia (ARI) is available at <http://www.aao.org/eye-base/guidelines/management-of-acute-retinal-ischemia>. The AAO PPP for the Management of Acute Retinal Ischemia (ARI) is available at <http://www.aao.org/eye-base/guidelines/management-of-acute-retinal-ischemia>.

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- 78 yo W woman with transient visual loss OD
- PMHx:
 - Atrial fibrillation on Coumadin
 - Recurrent falls
 - s/p cataract extraction/PCIOL OU

152

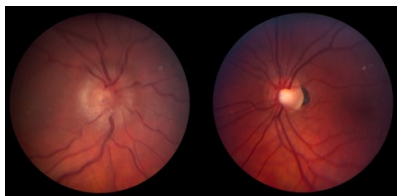
- Oct 30: sudden blurry vision OD
 - Resolved within 30 minutes
- November 2nd: blurry vision OD
 - Improved, but stayed blurry
- Seen on November 5

153

- Nov 5 (Optometrist):

◦ VA:	20/200 OD	20/30 OS
◦ Color:	2/14 OD	12/14 OS
◦ Pupils:	++ RAPD	Normal
◦ Extraocular movements:	full	
◦ HVF:	Black OD	Diffuse depression
◦ Fundus:		

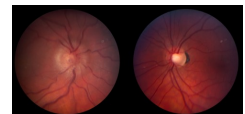
154



155

What next?

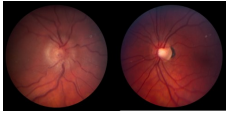
- 78 yo white woman
- AION
- No disc at risk
- Preceded by transient visual loss



156

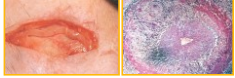
What next?

- 78 yo white woman
- AION
- No disc at risk
- Preceded by transient visual loss
 - => **Giant cell arteritis very likely**
 - => Emergency department for immediate CBC/ESR/CRP, intravenous steroids, admission, evaluation and treatment



157

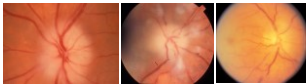
- Elevated ESR and CRP
- Temporal artery biopsy: florid inflammation



158

Visual Loss in Giant Cell Arteritis

- Severe, permanent (AION>PION>CRAO)
- Premonitory transient visual loss or diplopia in 65% within prior 8.5 days
- Second eye involved within 8 days in >70%
- Headaches helpful, but visual loss isolated in 25% of GCA cases



159

Treatment of GCA

- **Steroids treat GCA**
 - **Prototypical steroid-responsive disease**
 - Immediate and dramatic improvement of systemic symptoms and headaches
 - Vision protective

160

GCA: Steroids for Visual Loss

- **Immediately**
 - Visual outcome correlates with how fast steroid treatment is initiated
- High dose
- Route ? (IV vs PO)

161

British Society of Ophthalmology guidelines – Initial Treatment

Clinical presentation	Acute treatment protocol
Uncomplicated GCA (no jaw claudication or visual disturbance)	40-60mg oral prednisone daily (not less than 0.75 mg/kg daily)
Evolving visual loss (recent onset visual symptoms over 6-12 hours) or transient visual loss	IV methylprednisolone 500 – 1000 mg daily for 3 days before oral steroids
Established visual loss	At least 60 mg prednisolone daily, to protect fellow eye

Dasgupta B, Borg FA, Hassan N, et al. Rheumatology 2010;49:1594-1597

162

Why Intravenous is better:

- **Immediate** treatment
 - You know when it happens
 - Around the clock (250 mg qid)
 - Patient in hospital
 - Monitored / prevention complications
 - Easier organization of consultations / follow-ups
 - Easier for patient and family / better compliance
- => Better (overall) outcome

163

Think Giant Cell Arteritis

- >50 yo
- Visual symptoms/signs
 - Visual loss (optic nerve, retina, choroid)
 - Unexplained visual loss
 - Transient visual loss
 - Diplopia
 - Transient diplopia
 - Cranial nerve palsies
- Headaches

164

47 yo AA Man

- Wakes up with no light perception OS
- Headache
- "Tired"

165

Sees his optometrist

- 20/20 OD; NLP OS
- Left RAPD
- Normal fundus OU

- Does not feel well
- Headache, a little "drowsy"
- BP: 141/95. HR 88

166

Optometrist calls us

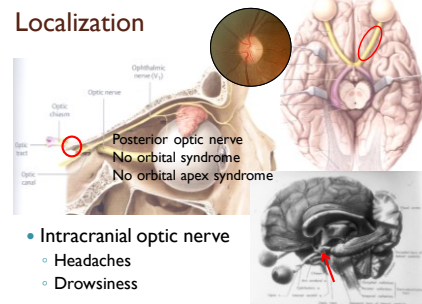


- Do you want to see the patient today or do I send the patient to the ED?

- Emory ED!
 - (I know what he has)
 - Will need admission/treatment in hospital

167

Localization

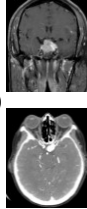


- Intracranial optic nerve
 - Headaches
 - Drowsiness

168

Diagnosis

- Acute posterior optic neuropathy
- Headache
- Drowsiness
 - Pituitary apoplexy
 - (Ophthalmic artery/sellar aneurysm)



169

2 hours later:

- Patient evaluated in the ED

170



171

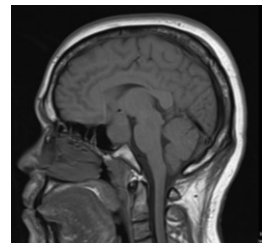


172

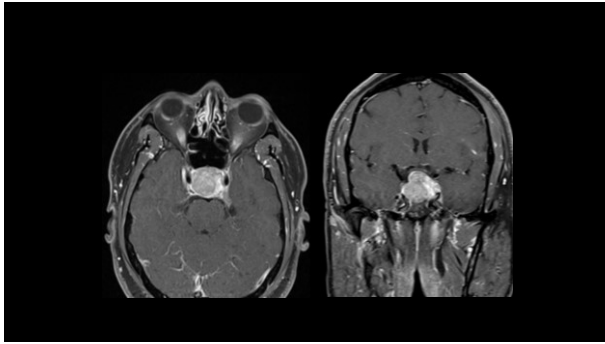
ED H&P

- ED Clinical Disc
 - ED Patient Dis
 - Neurology Docum
 - Clinical Discum
 - ED Patient Dis
 - 7/1/2014 1
 - Patient Education
 - Surgical Document
 - Consultations Doc
- Reexamination/ Reevaluation**
Time: 07/01/2014 12:48:00
Assessment: fundus photos reviewed, no papilloedema, no cuts of vessels, no hemorrhage
- Impression and Plan**
vision loss, cva
- Calls-Consults**
- 07/01/2014 12:34:00 , neurology resident, phone call, recommends will come and see.

173



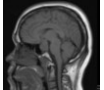


174



175

Pituitary Apoplexy

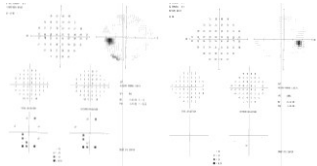
- Transphenoidal resection same night
- Path: non-functioning pituitary adenoma
- Post-op: normal endocrine function

176

2 days later

- 20/15 OU
- Trace left RAPD
- Full color vision



177

3 days later

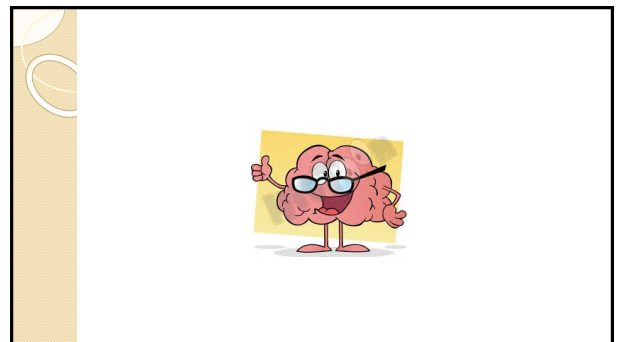
- Discharged on acetaminophen
- Back to work

178

What Went Right?

- Better to call for advice than to obtain the wrong test
- Better to refer to a specialized center
- We knew what we were looking for

179



180

84 yo white man with

- Bilateral optic nerve edema
- PMHx:
 - Pace-maker (3rd degree block)
 - Afib/anticoagulated
 - Diabetes/mild diabetic retinopathy
 - Congestive heart failure
 - s/p cataract surgery – good outcome

181

Routine examination optometrist:

- Bilateral optic nerve head edema
 - No headache
 - No visual loss

182

Ophthalmologist:

- Bilateral disc edema
- => Head CT normal
- Normal/neg ESR, CRP, CBC, ACE, B12, folate, ANA, Bartonella, RPR

183

One month later:

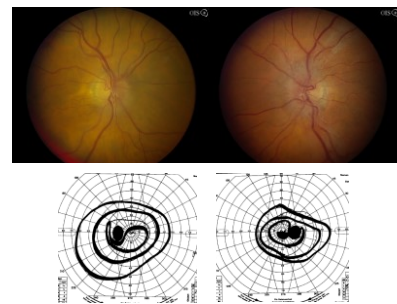
- Mild decreased vision
- Same optic nerve edema
- => Neurologist:
 - LP: normal CSF OP, normal contents

184

One month later neuro-oph:

- | | | |
|----------|--------|--------|
| | OD | OS |
| • VA | 20/30- | 20/30+ |
| • Color | 12/14 | 13/14 |
| • Pupils | RAPD | |
| • SLE | PCIOL | PCIOL |
| • EOM | Full | Full |

185



186

What are we missing?

- Lipitor
- Coreg
- Synthroid
- Coumadin
- Lisinopril
- Pacerone
- Aspirin
- Nexium
- Metformin

187

What are we missing?

- Lipitor
- Coreg
- Synthroid
- Coumadin
- Lisinopril
- **Pacerone**
- Aspirin
- Nexium
- Metformin

Amiodarone

188

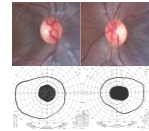
One month after d/c amiodarone



189

Toxic Optic Neuropathies

- Ethambutol
 - Dose-related
 - Early dyschromatopsia
- Linezolid
 - Dose-related
 - Mild disc edema
 - Peripheral neuropathy
- Amiodarone
 - Disc edema (mimics AION)
- Cobalt-chromium metallosis
 - Hip implants
- Methanol and ethylene glycol



190

What Went Wrong?

Mistakes easily repeated when using electronic med record

Always double check with patient possible "toxic" drugs

You only find what you are looking for

191

55 yo woman with diplopia

- PMHx: cholecystectomy, hysterectomy (endometriosis)
- Medications: None
- No tobacco, no alcohol
- Fam Hx: unremarkable

192

55 yo woman with diplopia

- Dec 2004: right retro-orbital headaches
 - Episodic, isolated
- Feb 2005: still has episodic pain
 - PCP: brain CT with contrast: normal
- March 2005: acupuncture for headaches
- March 20, 2005: headaches worse, nausea, diplopia, right ptosis

193

55 yo woman with diplopia

- March 21: optometrist sends pt to neurologist
 - Ptosis OD, partial adduction OD
 - Right pupil sluggish
 - MRI brain with gad: normal
 - MRA and MRV: normal
 - CBC, ESR, CRP: normal

194

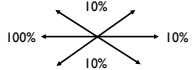
Neuro-Op consultation (March 25)...

- Neurologist not sure what to do at this point

195

Neuro-Op consultation

	OD	OS
VA	20/25	20/25
Pupils	Poorly reactive No RAPD	Reactive
Lids	4 mm ptosis	Normal
Fundus	Normal	Normal
EOM	10%	Full



196

Management:

- Right third nerve palsy
- Pupil involved
- Headaches
- Recent worsening
- Normal MRI/MRA

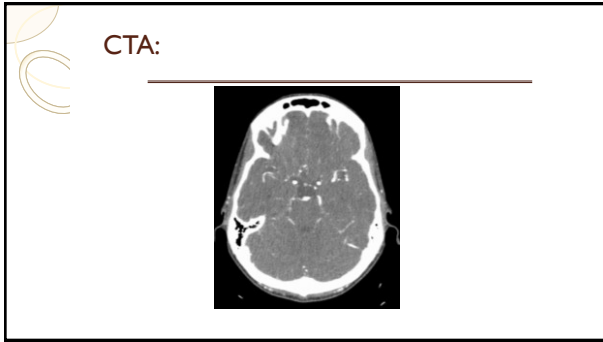
- 11:30AM, Friday
- MRI still at outside hospital

197

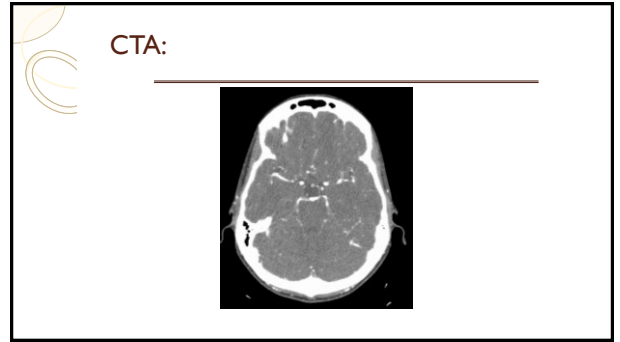
Management:

- 11:30AM: Warn neurosurgery
- 11:30AM: Send husband to pick up MRI
- 12:15PM: CT-Angiogram with contrast

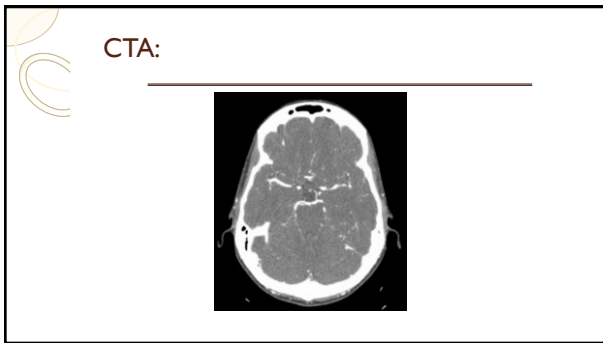
198



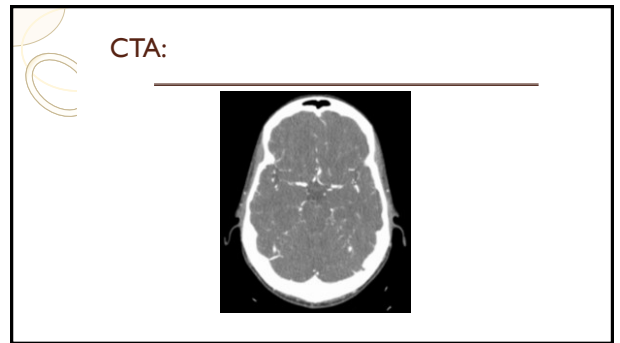
199



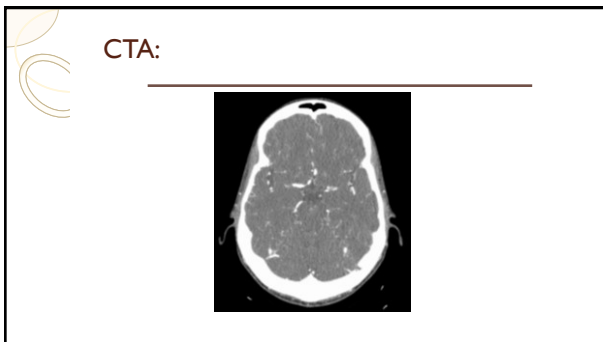
200



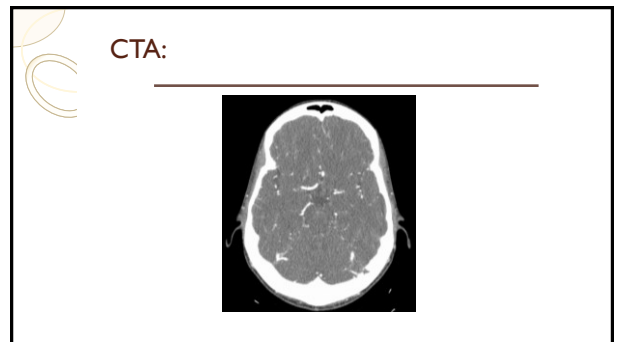
201



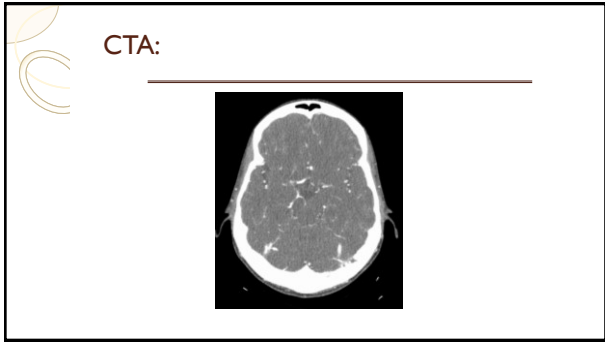
202



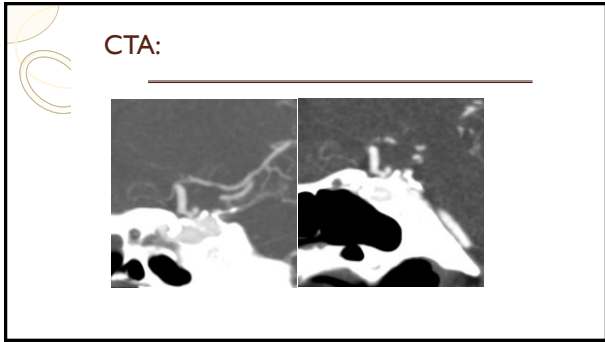
203



204



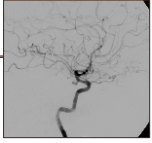
205



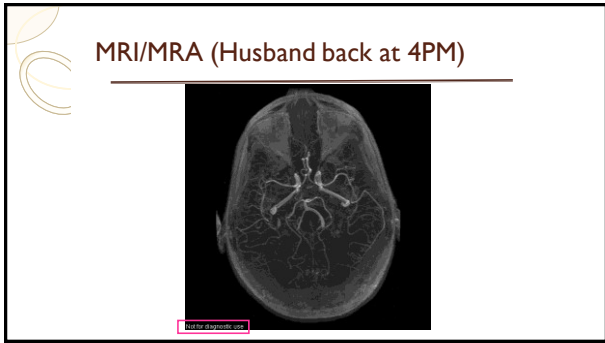
206

Management:

- 3:00PM: Neurosurgery OR
 - Angiogram in the OR
 - Right frontal craniotomy
 - Aneurysmal rupture at the time of clipping
- Post-op course uncomplicated
- 6 months later: EOM normal OD



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208



209



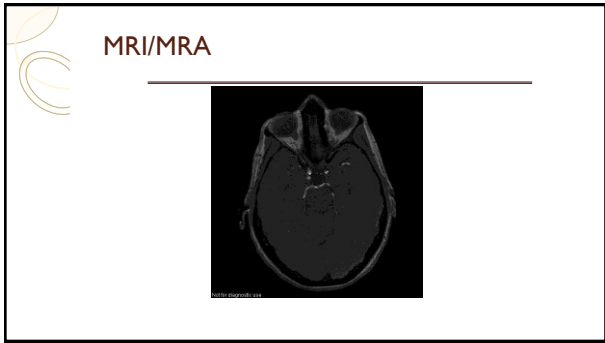
210



211



212



213



214



215

Underdiagnosis of Posterior Communicating Artery Aneurysm in Noninvasive Brain Vascular Studies

Valerie J. Elmalem, MD, Patricia A. Hudgins, MD, Beau B. Bruce, MD, Nancy J. Newman, MD, Valérie Blousson, MD

Background: Expert interpretation of modern noninvasive neuroimaging such as computed tomographic angiography (CTA) or MR angiography (MRA) should detect nearly all aneurysms responsible for an isolated third nerve palsy. Whether a certain angiogram should still be obtained in cases with negative CTA or MRA remains debated and mostly relies on whether the noninvasive study was correctly performed and review the literature with the neuroradiologist. **Methods:** Retrospective review of 100 consecutive cases of isolated third nerve palsy and communicating artery aneurysms at our institution. **Results:** We identified 100 cases of isolated third nerve palsy presented with isolated third nerve palsy. **Conclusion:** In our study, 100 cases were classified into 3 groups based on the results of the noninvasive imaging obtained at initial presentation. Group I included 4 cases with subarachnoid hemorrhage on initial noncontrast head CT scans obtained in an emergency department for evaluation of their isolated third nerve palsy and normal noncontrast head CT at presentation, immediately correctly diagnosed with a PCoA aneurysm at the referring institution. Group II includes the 8 remaining cases who all had aneurysms that were missed on non-invasive studies at outside institutions. Review of these outside studies at our institution showed a PCoA aneurysm, confirming misinterpretation of these tests by the outside radiologists, rather than inadequate technical absence of specific training in neuroimaging and inaccurate clinical information provided to the referring radiologists were associated with this misinterpretation at the outside institutions. The average size of PCoA A aneurysms associated with this misinterpretation at our institution was 3.5 mm.

- Know what you are looking for
- Know the neuroradiologist
- Talk to the radiologist

216

- 48 year old man with difficulty reading after coronary artery bypass surgery
- PMHx:
 - Hypertension
 - Hypercholesterolemia
- Had good vision (reading glasses)

217

- Developed chest pain from angina
- Severe systemic hypertension
- => Coronary artery bypass graft (off pump)
- No immediate complication

218

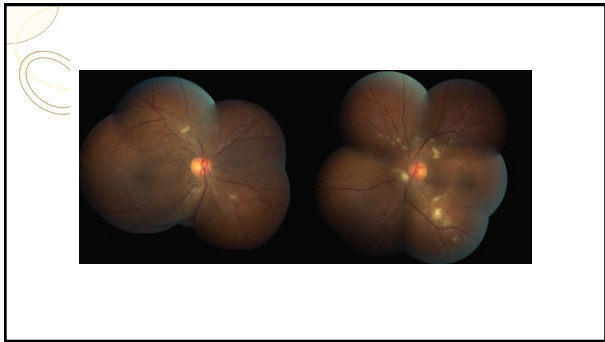
- A few days later:
 - Difficulty reading

219

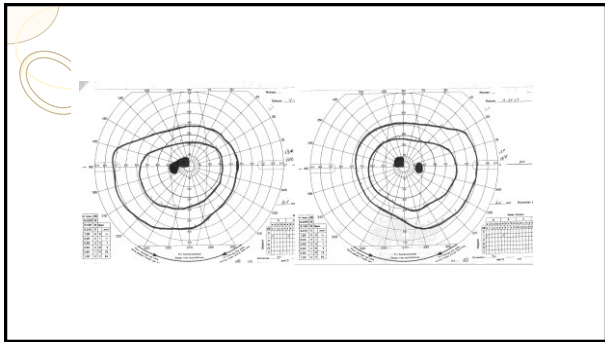
Seen Emergently

- BP 148/86; HR 58, regular
- Mild obesity
- Neurologic examination normal
- Visual acuity, color vision, confrontation visual fields, anterior segment, intraocular pressures, pupils, extraocular movements:
 - Normal

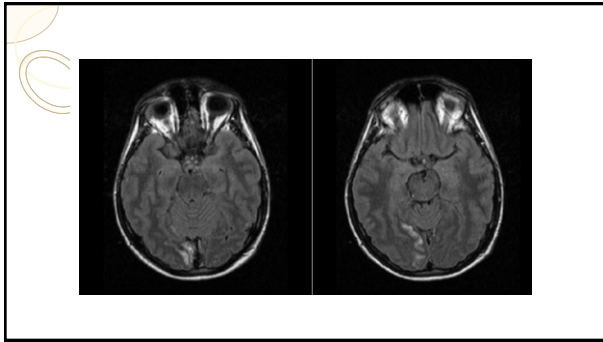
220



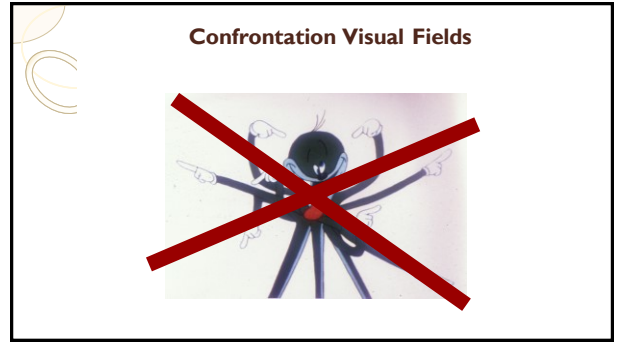
221



222



223



224

Confrontation Visual Fields

- Overall sensitivity is poor (50-74%)
 - 40% of anterior visual pathway lesions
 - 68-90% of homonymous hemianopias
- Detects only moderate or dense defects
- Using a red target may help sensitivity
- Always consider obtaining formal perimetry when the clinical findings don't fit
- Still do them!

225

Anatomy of Visual Pathways

Lesion location	Visual field defect
1 Left optic nerve	Decreased vision, left eye
2 Proximal left optic chiasm	Junctional scotoma
3 Chiasm	Bilateral hemianopia
4 Left optic tract	Right homonymous hemianopia
5 Left lateral geniculate nucleus	Right homonymous hemianopia
6 Left temporal lobe	Right homonymous superior hemianopic defect
7 Left parietal lobe	Right homonymous inferior hemianopic defect
8 Left occipital lobe (upper bank)	Right homonymous inferior quadrantanopia
9 Left occipital lobe (lower bank)	Right homonymous superior quadrantanopia
10 Left occipital lobe	Right homonymous macular sparing hemianopia
11 Top of the left occipital lobe	Right homonymous scotoma

226

Approach to the Interpretation of Visual Fields

“The Four Questions”

227

Approach to the Interpretation of VFs

“The Four Questions”

1) Does the field defect involve one eye or two?

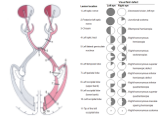
- If one eye: it's in the eye or optic nerve
- If two eyes: it's either bilateral eye/optic nerve or it's chiasm/retrochiasm

228

Approach to the Interpretation of VFs "The Four Questions"

2) If two eyes, does the defect respect the vertical meridian?

- If no, then it's in the bilateral eye/optic nerve
- If yes, then it's in the chiasm/retrochiasm

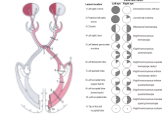


229

Approach to the Interpretation of VFs "The Four Questions"

3) If it respects the vertical meridian, are the defects on the same sides of the vertical in each eye (homonymous) or bitemporal?

- If bitemporal, then it's in the chiasm
- If homonymous, then it's retrochiasmal on the other side

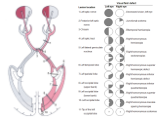


230

Approach to the Interpretation of VFs "The Four Questions"

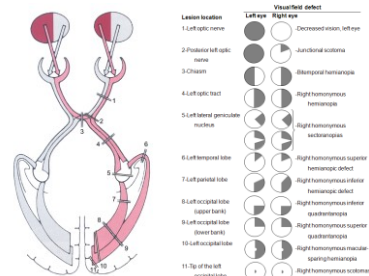
4) If homonymous, is it complete or incomplete?

- If complete, it has no further localizing value
- If incomplete, the more congruous, the more posterior

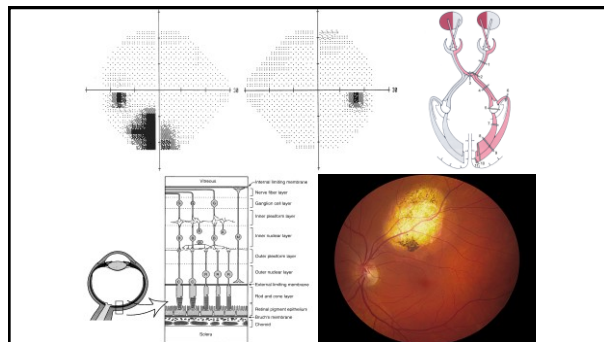


231

Anatomy of Visual Pathways

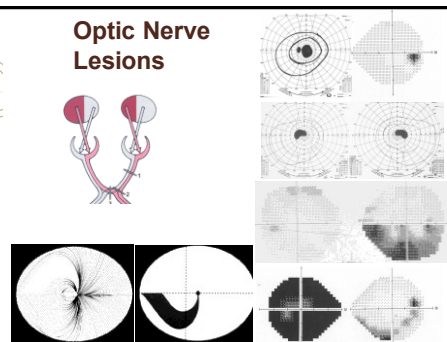


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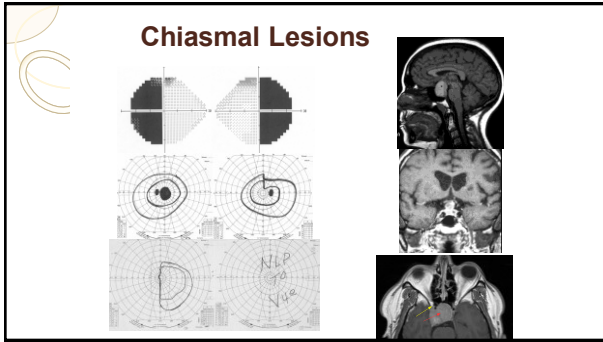


233

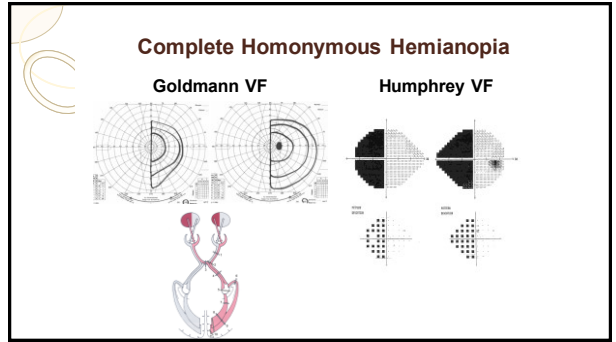
Optic Nerve Lesions



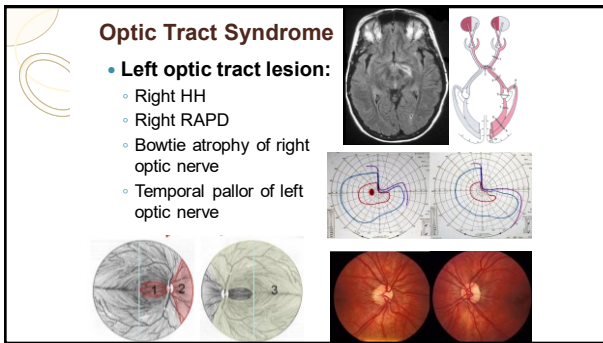
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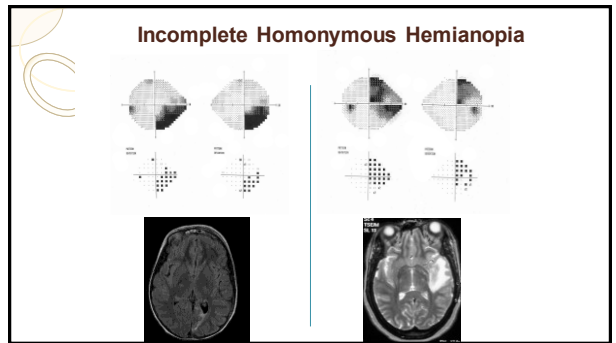
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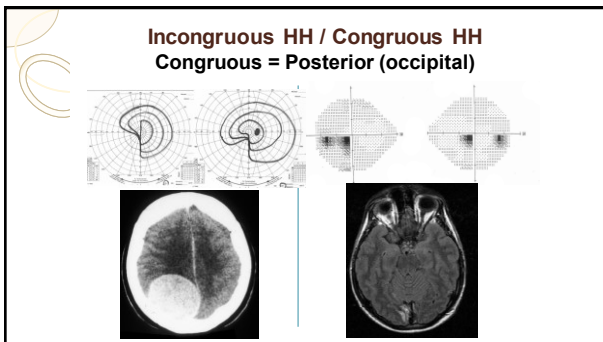
236



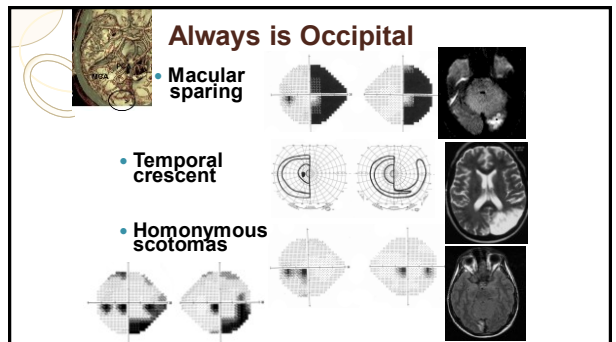
237



238




239



240

Cerebral Blindness

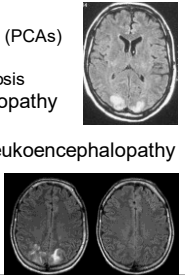
- Bilateral visual acuity loss
 - Equal in both eyes
- Normal pupils
- Normal fundus
- Anton's: Patients with cerebral blindness say they can see (denial)



241

Bilateral Occipital Lesions Cerebral Blindness

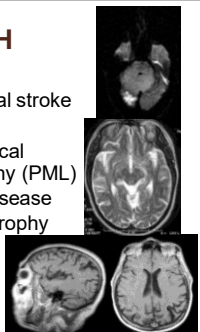
- Vascular:
 - Vertebrobasilar ischemia (PCAs)
 - Cerebral anoxia
 - Cerebral venous thrombosis
- Hypertensive encephalopathy
- Eclampsia
- Posterior Reversible Leukoencephalopathy (PRESS)
- Alzheimer
- PML
- CJD



242

MRI "Negative" HH

- Wrong technique
- Small or old occipital stroke
- Optic tract lesion
- Progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy (PML)
- Creutzfeldt Jacob disease
- Posterior cortical atrophy (Alzheimer)



243

Approach to the Interpretation of VFs "The Four Questions"

- 1) Does the field defect involve one eye or two?
- 2) If two eyes, does the defect respect the vertical meridian?
- 3) If it respects the vertical meridian, are the defects on the same sides of the vertical in each eye (homonymous) or bitemporal?
- 4) If homonymous, is it complete or incomplete?

244