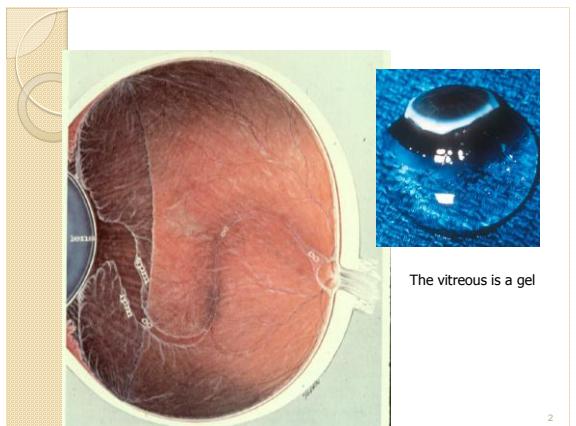


ADVENTURES IN THE VITREOUS

Leo Semes, OD
Professor UAB Optometry

Lsemes@uab.edu

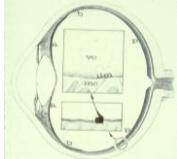
1



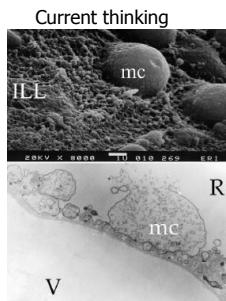
2

Normal Vitreous Attachments

Previous notions



Mueller cells and biological adhesive keep the retina and vitreous together



3

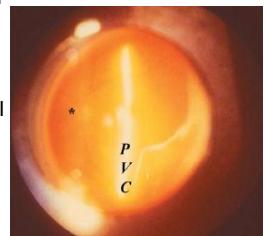
Clinical Vitreous Anatomy

- Molecular composition

- Water (99%)
- Solids

- Interfaces

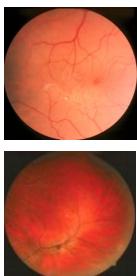
- Cloquet's canal
- Hyaloid
- Lacunae
- Fibrils



4

Anatomy & Physiology

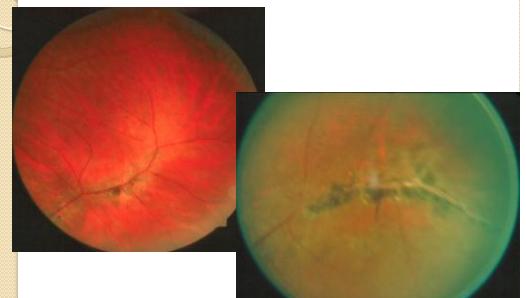
- Abnormal clinical attachments
 - posterior pole – “ERM”, macular hole
 - blood vessels –radial lattice
 - between ILM & hyaloid face – cystic tuft, lattice retinal degeneration



Bishop PN. Structural macromolecules and supramolecular organization of the vitreous gel. Prog Ret Eye Res 2000; 19 (3): 323-344.

5

Radial “Lattice”



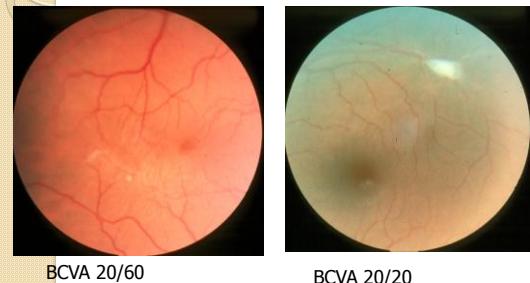
6

PVD w/ continued macular traction



7

ERM



8

Examining the Vitreous

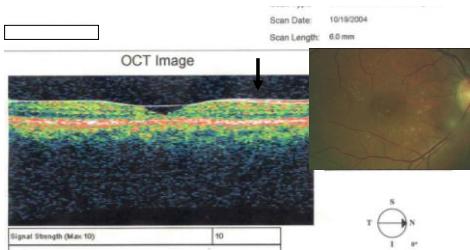
- At slit lamp – anterior vitreous
 - Hyaloid membrane
 - Compacted fibers
- At slit lamp with PCL– posterior vitreous
 - Weiss ring *
 - Hyaloid
 - Detached
 - Remaining attachments
- OCT!!!

9

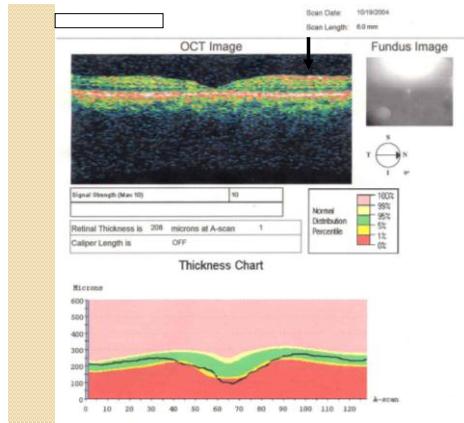
09/05 64 B/M
Dx ERM- OD / 2001
Next follow up: 09/04
VA in 1° position 20/70
BSCVA: 20/25 (w/ head turn)



10



11



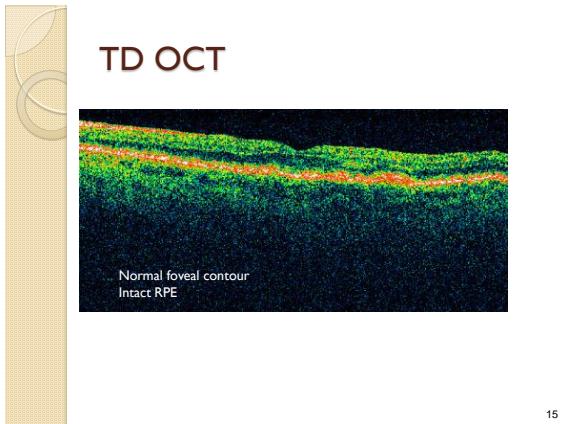
12



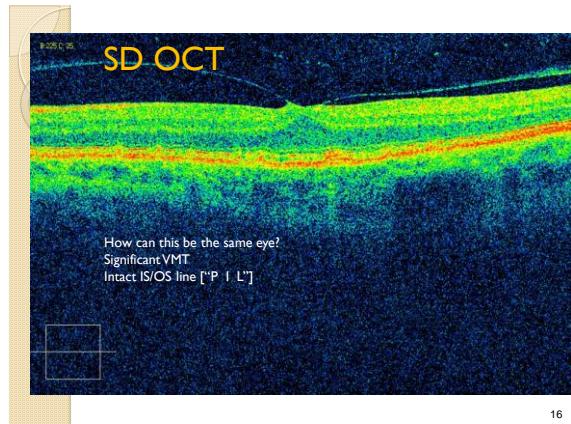
13



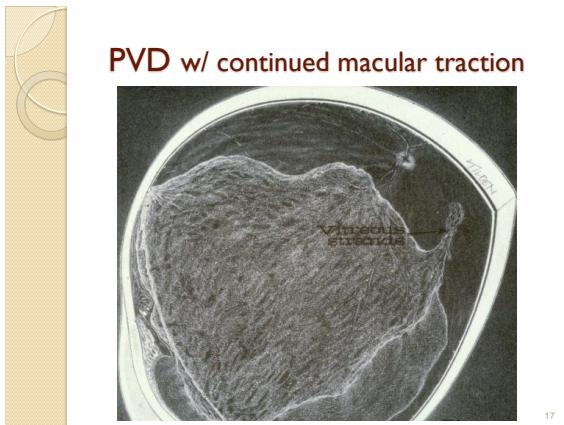
14



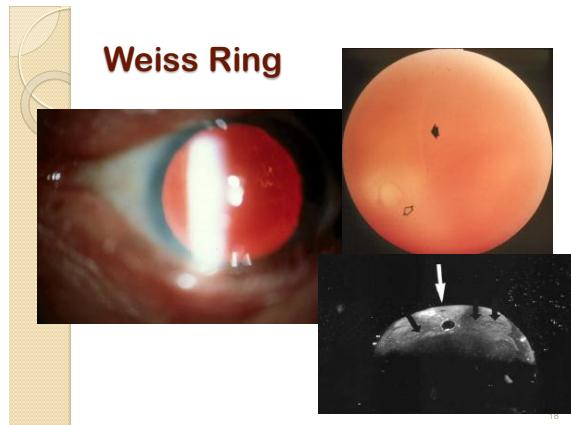
15



16

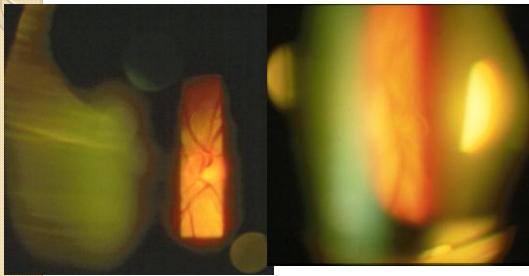


17



18

PVD – Weiss ring



19

Clinical Management of PVD

- Stereoscopic examination for complications (breaks, blood)
- 95% of PVD are uncomplicated!!!
- 50% of patients w/ acute PVD are asymptomatic

20

Clinical Management of PVD

- Patient education (S & R of RD) and reassurance
- Follow-up in 2-6 weeks

<http://bjo.bmjjournals.com/cgi/reprint/84/11/1264.pdf>

21

Suggested Approach for Referral of Patients With Presumed Posterior Vitreous Detachment - Clinical Scenario Recommended Action

- Floaters and/or flashes with "red flag" sign of acute retinal detachment
 - Monocular visual field loss ("curtain of darkness")
- Same-day referral to retinal surgeon; high risk of having retinal detachment
-
- New-onset floaters and/or flashes with high-risk features including subjective or objective visual reduction.
 - Vitreous hemorrhage or vitreous pigment on slitlamp examination,
- Same-day referral to retinal surgeon for dilated eye examination

2248 JAMA, November 25, 2009—Vol 302, No. 20 (Reprinted) ©2009

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Suggested Approach for Referral of Patients With Presumed Posterior Vitreous Detachment - Clinical Scenario Recommended Action

- New-onset floaters and/or flashes without high-risk features

Dilated eye examination within 1 to 2 weeks;
counsel patient regarding high-risk features that
should prompt urgent reassessment.

By whom????

2248 JAMA, November 25, 2009—Vol 302, No. 20 (Reprinted) ©2009

23

- Recently diagnosed uncomplicated posterior vitreous detachment with out new retinal tear or detachment.
 - New shower of floaters
 - New subjective visual reduction

Rule out high risk features

The retinal surgeon or your clinical judgment should determine urgency.

2248 JAMA, November 25, 2009—Vol 302, No. 20 (Reprinted) ©2009

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- Stable symptoms of floaters and/or flashes for several weeks to months, not particularly bothersome to the patient and without high-risk features.

Elective referral to retinal surgeon; counsel patient regarding high-risk features that should prompt urgent reassessment.

SYMPTOMS and RISKS of RETINAL DETACHMENT

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Clinical Management of PVD

- **Stereoscopic examination for complications (breaks, blood)**



Source: Comp Continued Update © 2009 Comprehensive Ophthalmology Update, LLC

26



Vitreoretinal Disorders

Macular membrane

- Natural history
 - VA – stable
 - Macular appearance changes

Surgical alternative

- Same VA pre and post OP W or W/O pseudohole

Greven CM, et al. Am J Ophthalmol 1998; 125: 360-366.
Massin P et al. Ophthalmology 1999; 106: 580-585.

27



Acquired Vitreoretinal Disorders

Posterior pole (con't)

- **Macular hole**
 - Pathogenesis
 - Staging / clinical observations
 - Management options



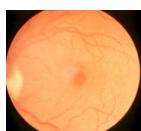
28



Vitreoretinal Disorders

• Macular hole – Pathogenesis (current evidence)

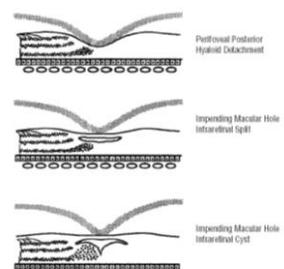
- Hyaloid detachment (perimacularly)
- Attachment persistent at foveal center
- Intraretinal split \Rightarrow cystic space
- Lifting of outer retina \Rightarrow opening of foveal floor
- ! Full-thickness macular hole ...



29

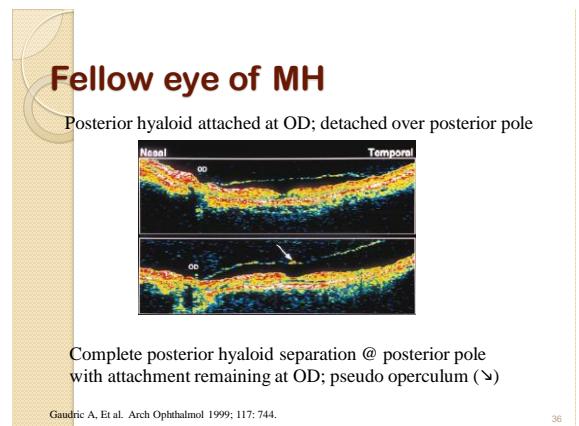
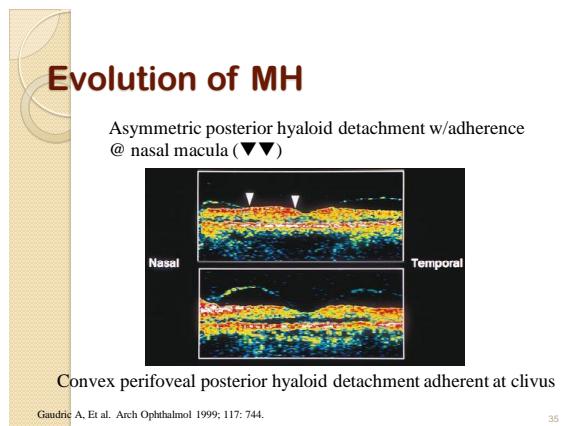
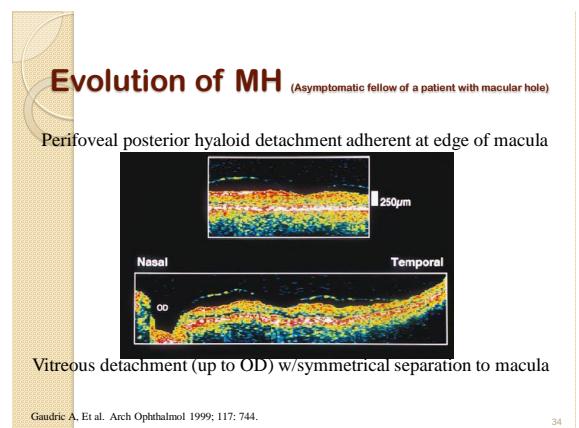
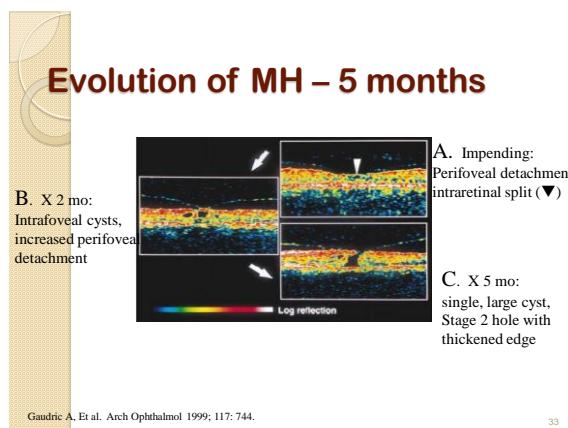
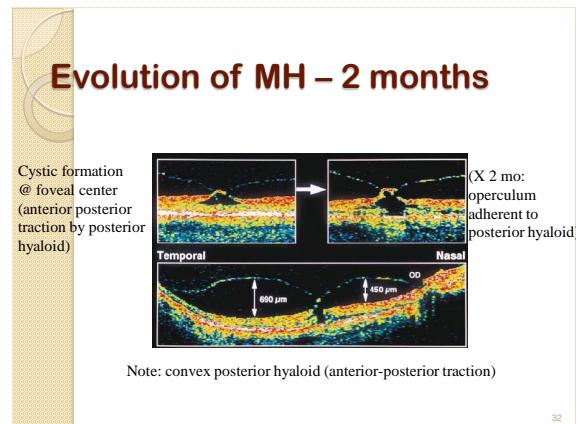
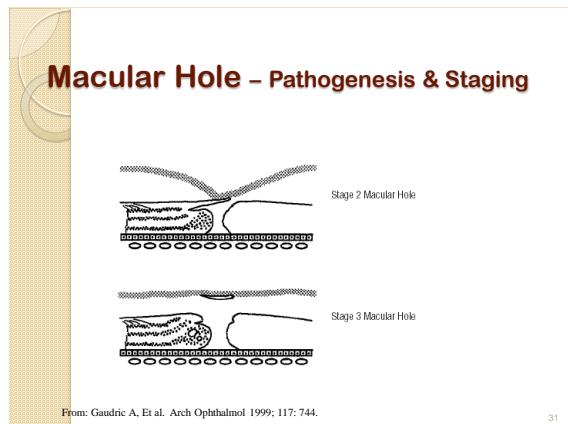


Macular Hole – Pathogenesis & Staging



From: Gaudric A, Et al. Arch Ophthalmol 1999; 117: 744.

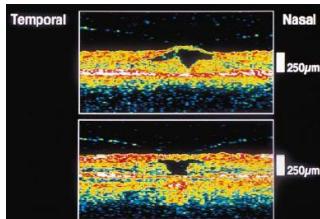
30





Evolution of MH – Impending in fellow eye

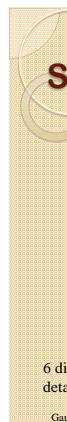
Foveal thickening w/cystic space & intraretinal split (inner retina)



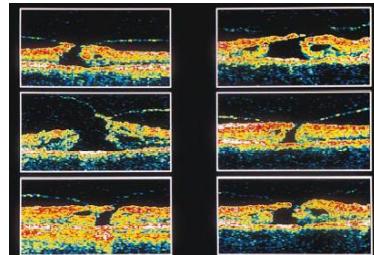
Cyst extends to RPE but roof (inner retina) remains intact

Gaudric A, Et al. Arch Ophthalmol 1999; 117: 744.

37



Staging of MH (Stage 2)



6 different cases with posterior hyaloid adherent to operculum incompletely detached (paradoxically) from the hole edge to which it seems to belong

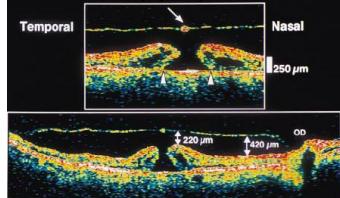
Gaudric A, Et al. Arch Ophthalmol 1999; 117: 744.

38



Staging MH (Stage 3)

Opercum (→) attached to posterior hyaloid;
Edge of hole is thickened by cystic spaces and detached from RPE (▲▲)



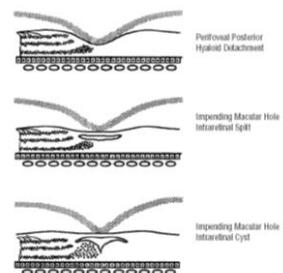
Complete (from p pole) posterior hyaloid detachment

Gaudric A, Et al. Arch Ophthalmol 1999; 117: 744.

39



Macular Hole – Pathogenesis & Staging

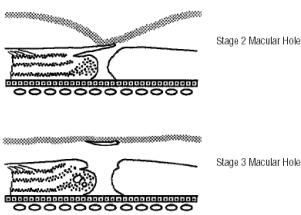


From: Gaudric A, Et al. Arch Ophthalmol 1999; 117: 744.

40



Macular Hole – Pathogenesis & Staging

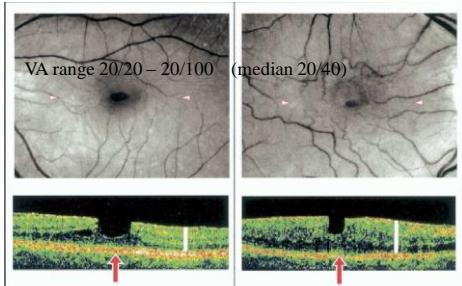


Gaudric A, Et al. Arch Ophthalmol 1999; 117: 744.

41



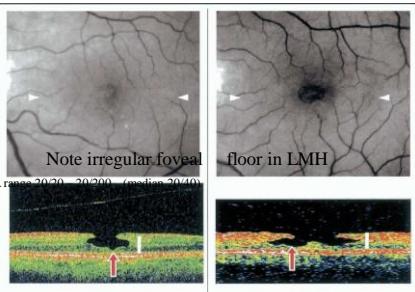
Macular pseudohole (MPH) vs. lamellar hole (LMH) – DDx by OCT



Haouchine, B et al. Am J Ophthalmol 2004;138:732-739.

42

Macular pseudohole (MPH) vs. lamellar hole (LMH) – DDX by OCT



Haouchine, B et al. Am J Ophthalmol 2004;138:732–739.

43

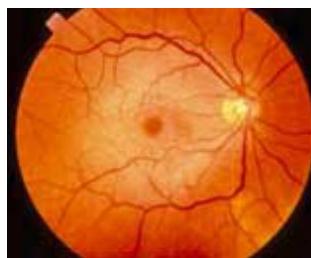
MH – Prognosis & Management

• Macular hole - Management options

- Surgical for impending (stages I & II)
 - Membrane peel (dissection of posterior hyaloid face from ILM @ macula)
 - injection of gas bubble between hyaloid face and ILM to induce PVD

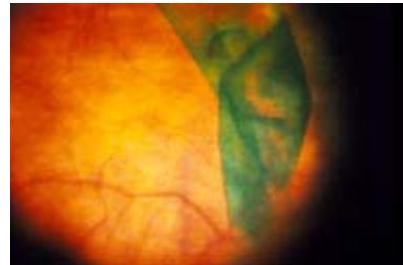
44

Pre-op



45

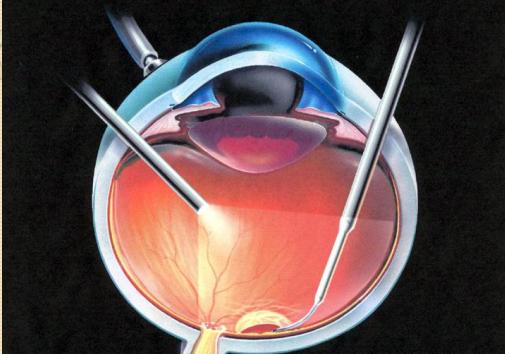
Intra-op



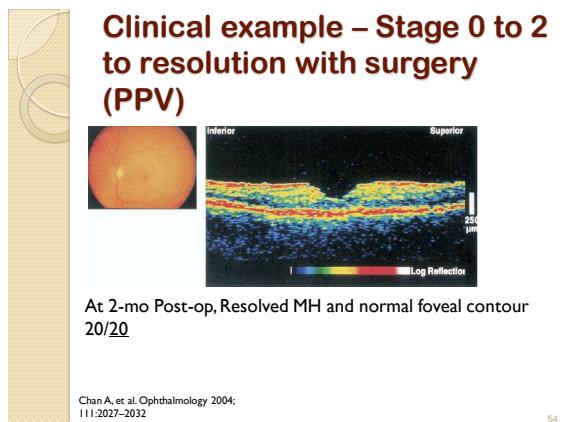
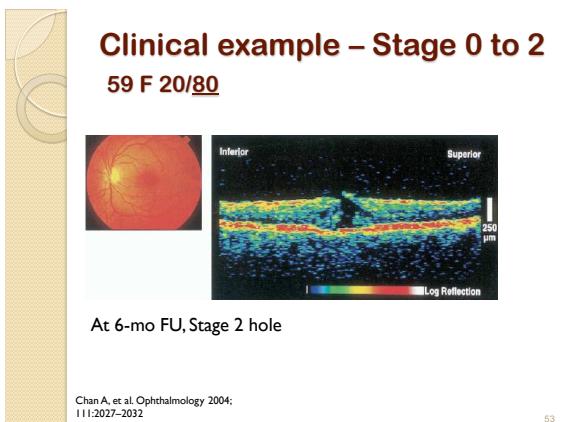
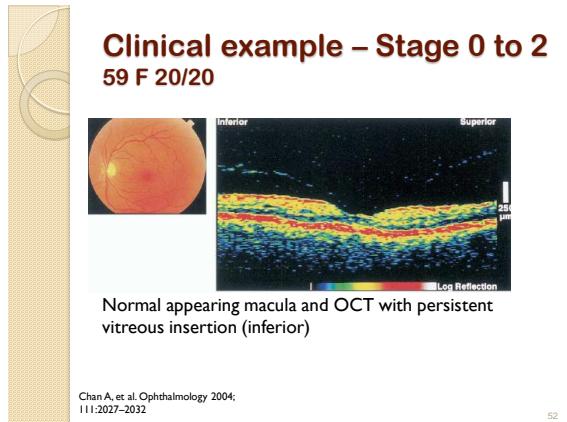
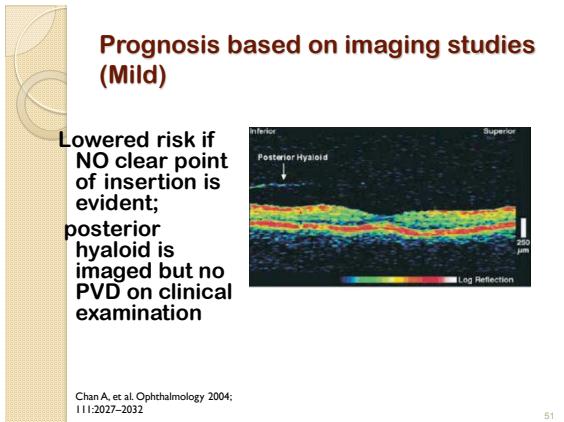
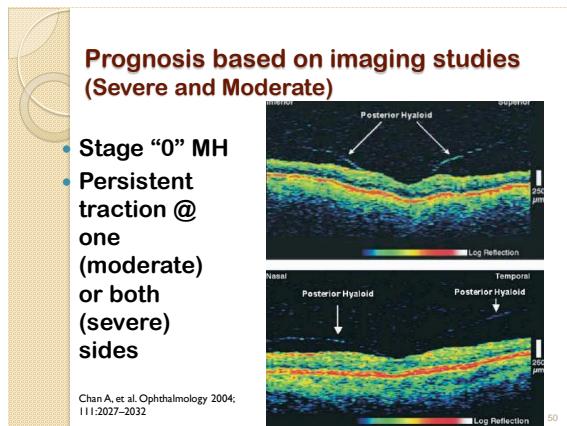
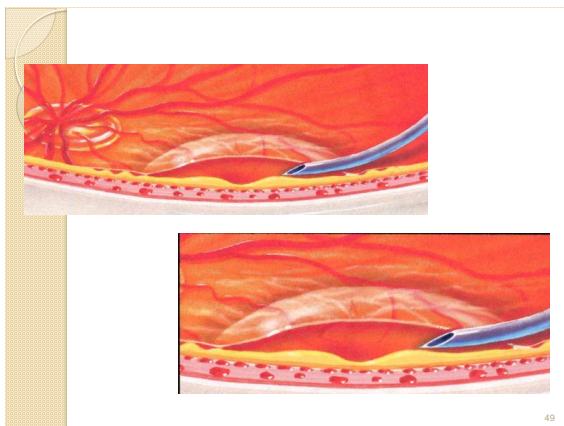
46

Apple Peel Technique

FILMS - Fluidic Internal Limiting Membrane Separation

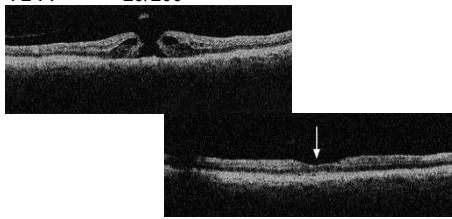


48



Spontaneous Macular Hole Resolution

72 M 20/200



Smiddy WE, Flynn HW. Pathogenesis of macular holes and therapeutic implications. Am J Ophthalmol 2004;137:525-537.

55

MH – Prognosis & Management

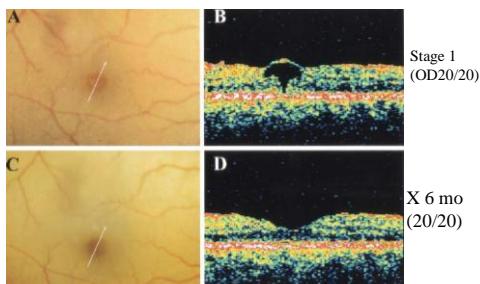
- Macular hole - Management options - Observation (? PVD)

- prognosis for involved eye is dependent on spontaneous PVD if “impending” (stage 1 or 2)
- follow-up monthly if VA is stable for up to 6 months

- prognosis for fellow eye (regardless of stage) may be dependent on presence /absence of PVD; risk is ~ 15% over 5 years

56

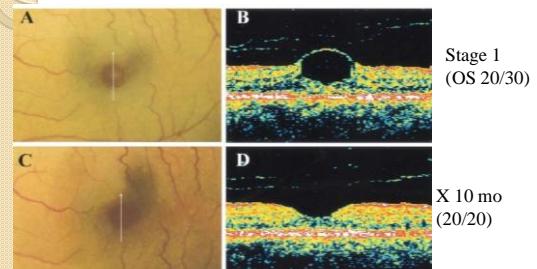
Spontaneous Resolution of MH (OD)



Asrani H, et al. Am J Ophthalmol 2002; 134: 447.

57

Spontaneous Resolution of MH (OS) !!!



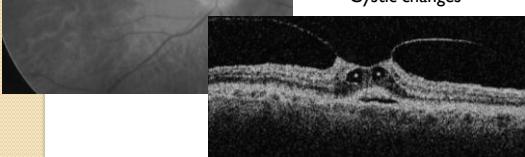
Asrani H, et al. Am J Ophthalmol 2002; 134: 447.

58

Macular hole repair

Impending macular hole
20/200

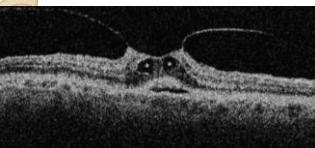
Cystic changes



Smiddy WE, Flynn HW. Pathogenesis of macular holes and therapeutic implications. Am J Ophthalmol 2004;137:525-537.

59

Macular hole repair



20/200

Smiddy WE, Flynn HW. Pathogenesis of macular holes and therapeutic implications. Am J Ophthalmol 2004;137:525-537.

60

Time lapse Macular hole repair

http://www.clinical-ophthalmology.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=901:open-access-macular-hole-formation-progression-and-surgical-repair-case-series-of-serial-oct-and-time-lapse-morphing-video-study&catid=27:news-articles&Itemid=71

55 BF presents for follow-up (x 4 mo.)
[Macular hole]



VA 20/200 OD
20/25 OS

1

61



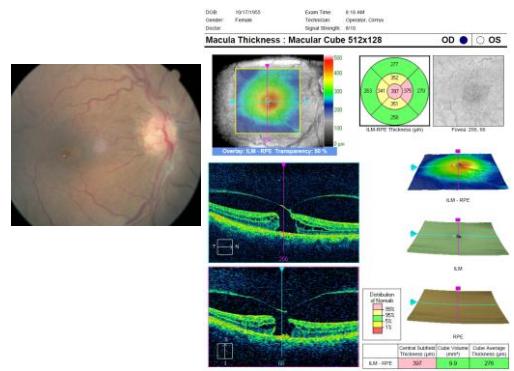
The left eye appears
be unininvolved

VA 20/200 OD
20/25 OS

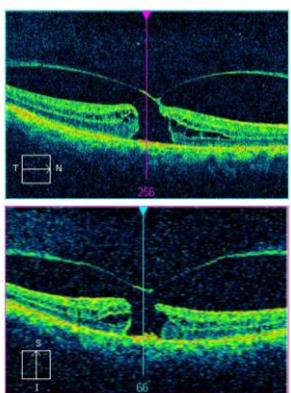


64

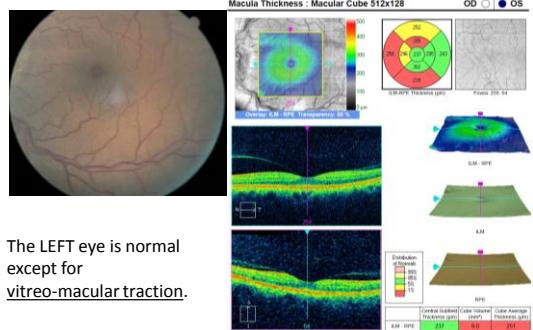
Correlation between clinical and OCT



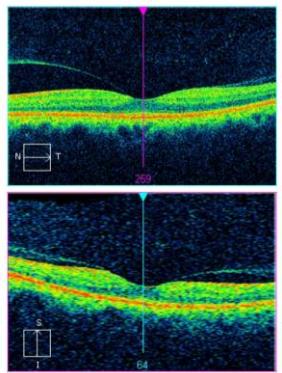
66



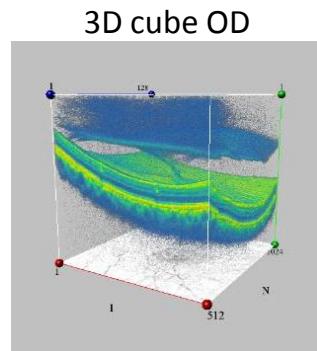
67



The LEFT eye is normal
except for
vitreo-macular traction.



Note VMT



70

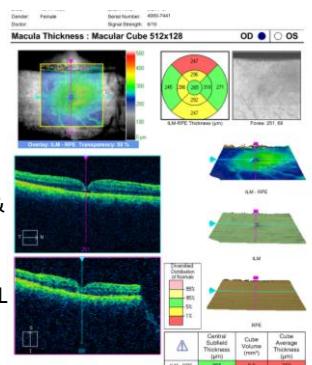
Management and follow-up

- Visit of 14 March 2012
- VA
 - 20/80 OD!
 - 20/25 OS – no change in OCT
- Further update: seen 6/19/2012
- Scheduled for mac hole repair (OD)

Post-op OD

Note:

- relatively normal macular contour & thickness
- But *absence* of PRL

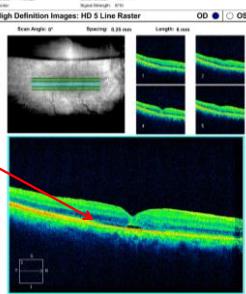


71

GP: S/P vitrectomy, IOL (OD)
(9/18/12); VA = 20/400

High-definition images

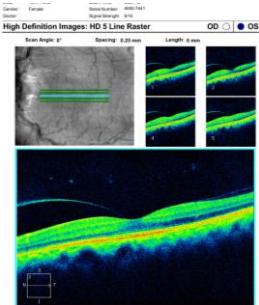
Note absence of photoreceptor layer.



High-definition images

Fellow eye with remaining VMT but no retinal defect.

Contrast this to the next case with lamellar macular hole



MH – Prognosis & Management

• Macular hole - Surgical

- Surgery for stages III and IV
 - Membrane peel (dissection of posterior hyaloid face from ILM @ macula) plus gas bubble

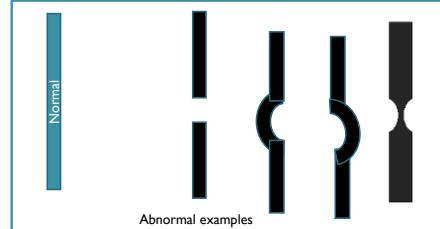
[surgical prognosis is better than 50/50 for stages III and IV]

(posterior segment complications occur in 41% of cases; mainly due to RD and disruption of RPE which may be due to light toxicity or surgical trauma)]

Nonsurgical complication includes ulnar neuropathy

75

MH Diagnosis – Watzke-Allen



Show to patients to assist in their description of the slit beam
Beam can be positioned vertically (traditional) or horizontal

From: Tanner V, et al. Arch Ophthalmol 2000; 118:1059.

76

MH Diagnosis – Watzke-Allen

Slit Beam Description When Placed Over Center of Macula	No. of Beams (Total=40)
Thinned in Both Vertical and Horizontal Orientations	24
Broken in Both Horizontal and Vertical Orientations	9
Thinned Vertically and Broken Horizontally	5
Thinned Horizontally and Broken Vertically	1
Kinked Vertically	1

Beam positioned vertically & horizontally

Tanner V, et al. Arch Ophthalmol 2000; 118:1059.

77

MH – Differential Diagnosis

- ERM (pseudohole)
- ARM



78

Macular Hole - Prognosis

- 60% of stage 1 holes abort (thought to be due to spontaneous PVD)
- Progression of the remainder to stage 4 is from 1-4 mo.
- Initial VA predicts outcome (i.e., better VA better prognosis; if VA 20/50-20/80, 2/3 will progress to full-thickness hole)

84

Macular Hole - Prognosis

- Risk Factors: female gender, age > 55 years
- Majority of stage 2 hole progress (best case - 33% resolve)
- Spontaneous resolution of stage 3 or 4 holes is < 10%
- Fellow-eye involvement - between 3 and 22%; PVD - ? protective

85

Macular Hole - Prognosis

- Surgical intervention is better in early low-stage cases
 - vitrectomy with **gas bubble placement** - (growth factors confer no improvement in outcome)
- WHAT ABOUT TRAUMATIC MACULAR HOLE???



LS

86

Peripheral VRT

- Retinal breaks
 - Round (Hole)
 - Linear (Tear)
- Lattice retinal degeneration
- Retinoschisis
- Retinal detachment

89

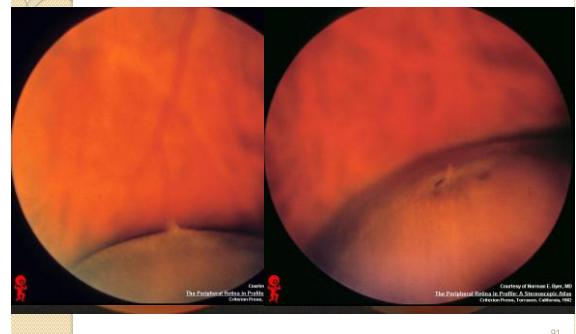
Retinal Breaks

- I. Operculated holes
 - Probably arise from **cystic retinal tufts**
 - Generally asymptomatic and stable
 - Always secondary to vitreous detachment (local or general)

v

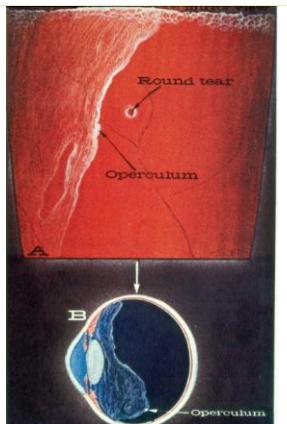
90

CRT w/retinal break @ indentation

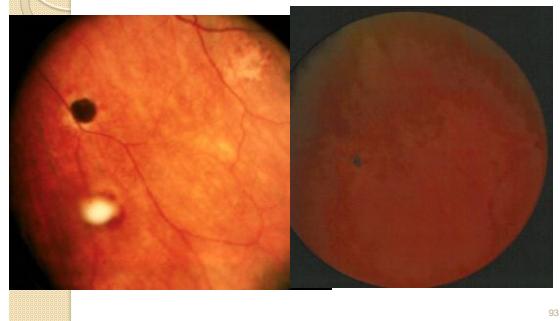


91

Operculated Break

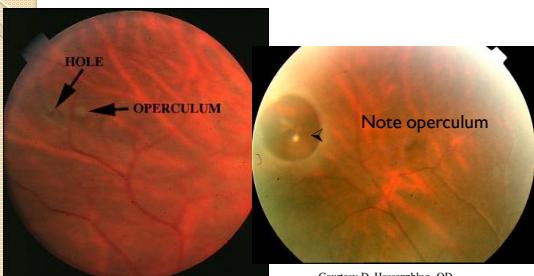


Operculated Breaks



93

Operculated Breaks



Courtesy D. Hassenpflug, OD

94

Large flap tear @ indentation



95

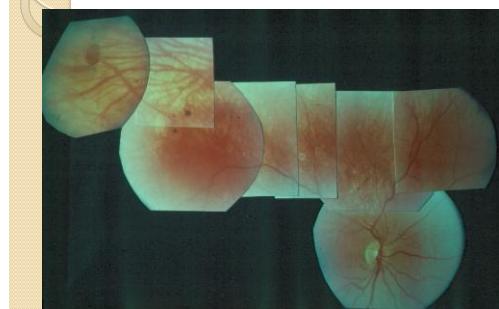
Retinal Breaks

- II. Atrophic holes
 - Small (< 1 DD) and stable
 - Asymptomatic
 - Pigment and / or fluid surround
 - Management: Observation for progression



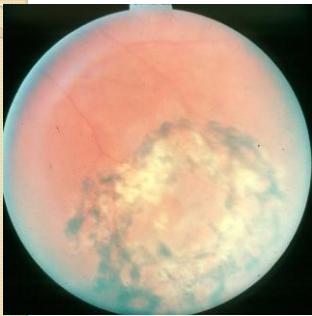
96

Atrophic Round Break



97

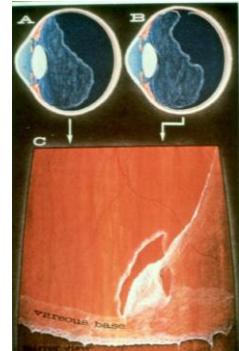
Atrophic Round Break - Repaired



98

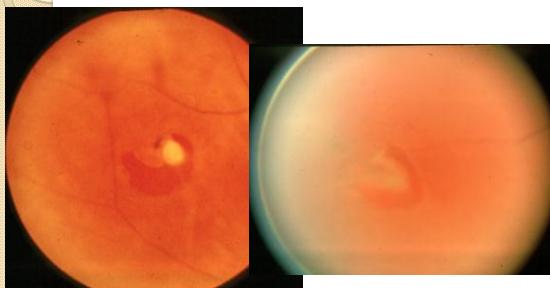
Retinal Breaks

- III.Tears
 - Arise secondary to PVD
 - May be **symptomatic** and require consideration for prophylaxis
 - Margins are: anteriorly – vitreous base; posteriorly – hyaloid



99

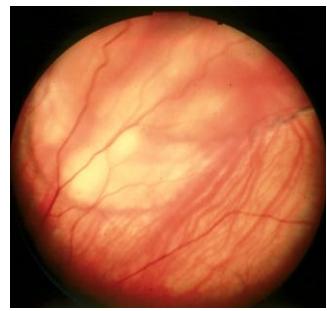
“Flap Tears” (linear retinal breaks)



100

???

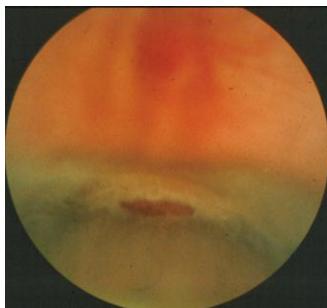
- Obscured choroidal vasculature
- Retinal vessels change course
- Pigment at margin



101

Retinal Erosion at Ora Serrata

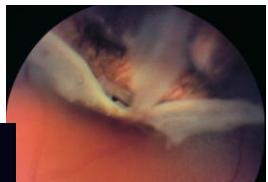
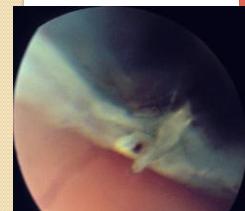
- Intrabasal location
- Asymptomatic
- Seen on indentation
- Observe



102

Retinal Dialysis

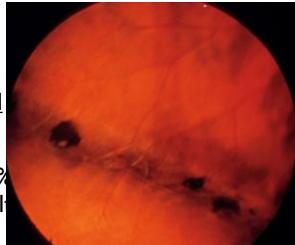
- Secondary to trauma
- Safe to indent?



103

Lattice Retinal Degeneration

- Prevalence: 10% maximum
- The disorder most frequently associated with RD
- BUT... only about 1% of all lattice will result in RD



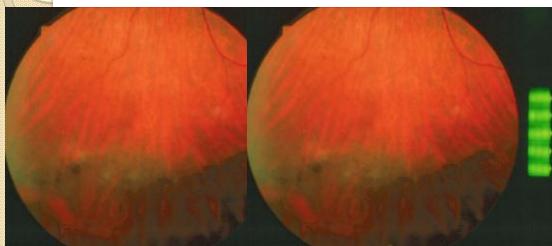
104

Lattice Retinal Degeneration

- Clinical appearance
 - Circumferential arrangement parallel to equator
 - 2/3 within 1 clock hour of 12 or 6 o'clock positions
 - Size ranges from .16 to 12 DD in length and 0.1 to 2.5 DD in width
 - Average number of lesions = 2/eye (range: 1-19)
 - Usually (always?) Bilateral...

105

Lattice 27 WF



106

Lattice Retinal Degeneration

- Clinical characteristics in a Primary Care Population* (600 consecutive patients; n= 31 subjects [5.2%])
 - Prevalence consistent with other studies from selected populations (6-8%)
 - No gender predilection compared to general clinic population
 - Lesions (n = 62) in all cases were within 1 clock hour of 12 or 6 O'clock and
 - 42/62 (77%) inferiorly

*Semes LP, Holland WC, Likens EG. Optometry 2001;72:247-50.

107

Lattice Retinal Degeneration

- Clinical characteristics in a Primary Care Population*
- 20/62 lesions were found to have holes
 - Of 31 patients, 19 (61.3%) bilateral
 - Other studies reported 33.7 – 51.6%

*Semes LP, Holland WC, Likens EG. Optometry 2001;72:247-50.

108

Lattice Retinal Degeneration

- Characteristic Clinical appearance (con't)
 - Thinned retina due to loss of inner layers
 - Liquefied vitreous complementary to thinned retina
 - Surround of vitreous adherent to the retina

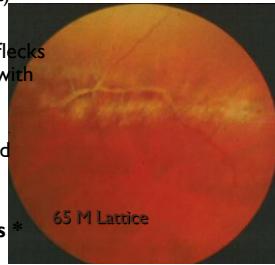
109



Lattice Retinal Degeneration

- Clinical appearance (Con't)

- Pigment alterations
- Whitish-yellow surface flecks (best seen in profile or with fundus biomicroscopy; "Snowflake")
- Round, oval, or linear red crater
- Small atrophic holes
- Branching white lines ***

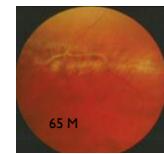


110



- Yellow atrophic spots (depigmentation of the RPE)

- Tractional tears at the ends or posterior margins of lesions (with PVD)



111



Lattice

with round hole
and small cuff of
SRF
11 YOM



112



Lattice

In two parallel rows


Courtesy of Norman E. Byer, MD
The Peripheral Retina in Practice: A Stereoscopic Atlas, Ciba-Geigy, Terre Haute, Indiana, Vol. 1.

113



Lattice Retinal Degeneration

- Other clinical characteristics

- Begins early in life (greatest number of new cases is discovered between the ages of 10 and 20 years)
- 95% of changes occur before the age of 19 years
- Tears result secondary to PVD
 - Frequency is between 1.0% and 2.4%
- May have a hereditary component
 - Transmittance = AD
 - No gender or race bias

114



Lattice Retinal Degeneration

- Clinical management – basis for observation

- History of prophylactic treatment
- Natural history studies of Byer and Hyams et al.
- Indications for prophylactic consideration (fellow eye RD *; See Tables)
- Risk factors for retinal break predisposing to RD

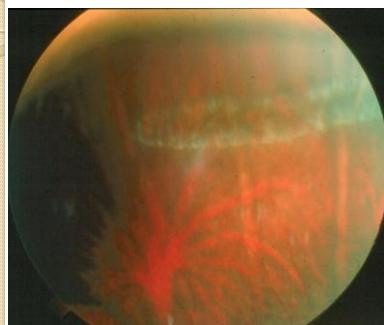
115

Lattice Retinal Degeneration

- Risk factors for retinal breaks predisposing to retinal detachment (RD)
 - Myopia > 3.00D + age < 30 years (when associated holes within lattice lesions); Myopia > 6.00D (any age)
 - PVD in myopic patients over the age of 49 years (acute retinal tear and subsequent RD)
 - Fellow-eye detachment due to LRD

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Lattice 30 WF



117

Lattice Retinal Degeneration

- Additional risk factors for retinal breaks predisposing to retinal detachment (RD)
 - Lattice > 6 clock hours (180 degrees)
 - Application of miotics
 - Intraocular surgery (cataract extraction); YAG capsulotomy

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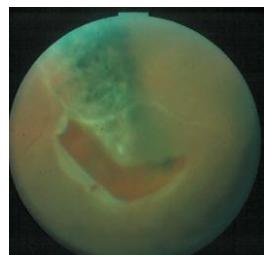
Lattice Retinal Degeneration

- Management of LRD
 - Observation
 - Documentation
 - Education (**Symptoms & precautions RD; E&U**)

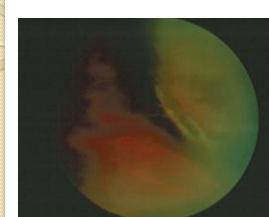
119



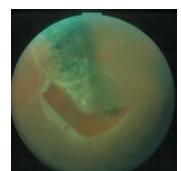
62 WM, Symptomatic



120



S/P buckle



121

Other disorders/degenerations

Retinoschisis

- more prevalent > 40
- inferior temporal
- breaks (holes may be in either layer i.e., outer [next to the RPE], or inner, [next to the vitreous])

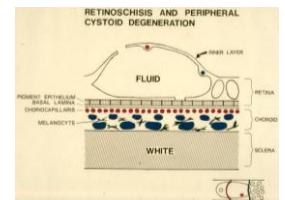


122

Retinoschisis

- RD is unlikely; greatest probability is with holes in both layers

- histopathology -



123

Retinoschisis

- Definition:** a split between the inner (neural) and outer (epithelial) retinal layers with potential for breaks in either layer;
- elevated, bullous appearance
- DDx: retinal detachment



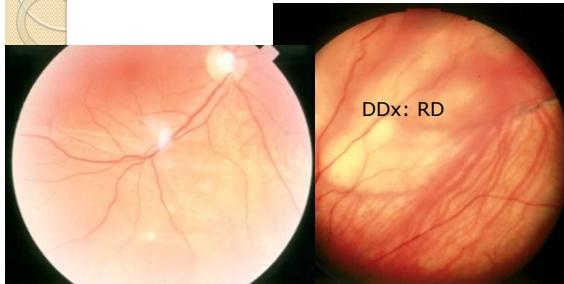
124

Retinoschisis



125

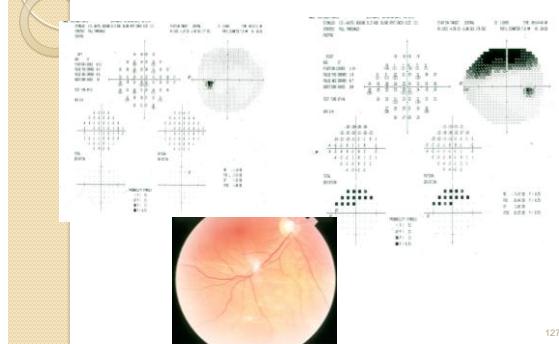
Retinoschisis (49 M) OD: -6.50D



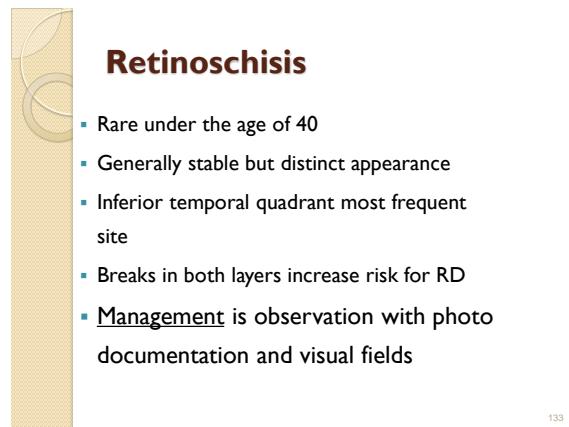
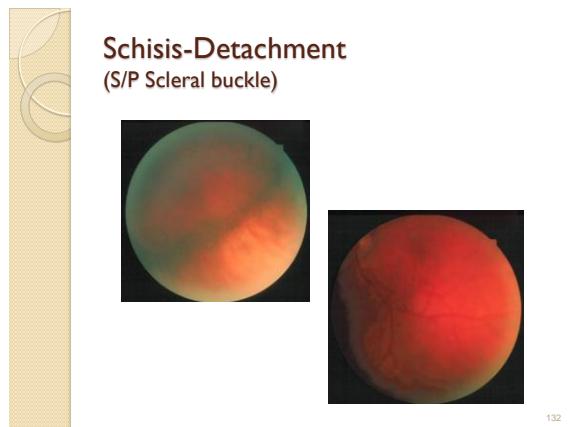
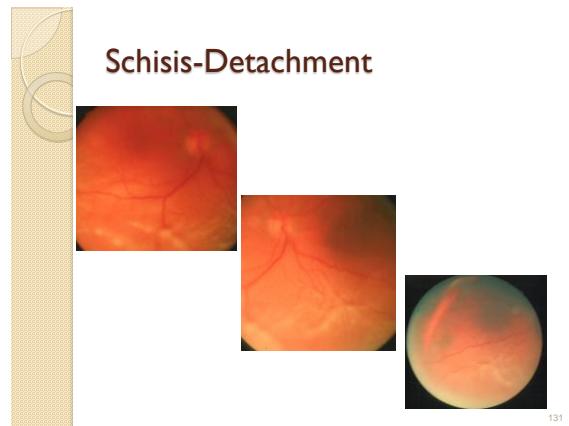
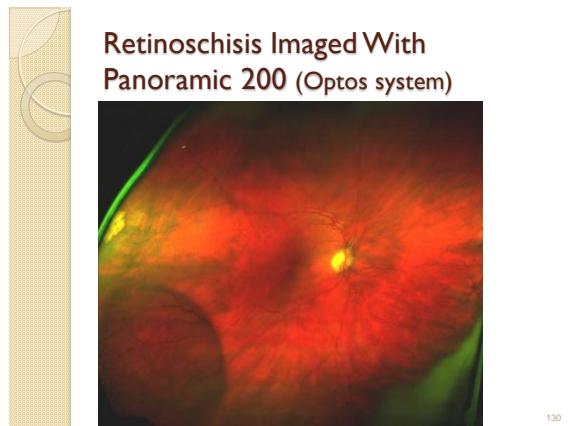
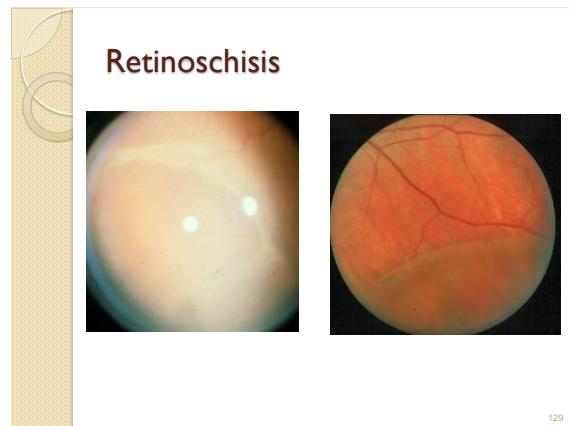
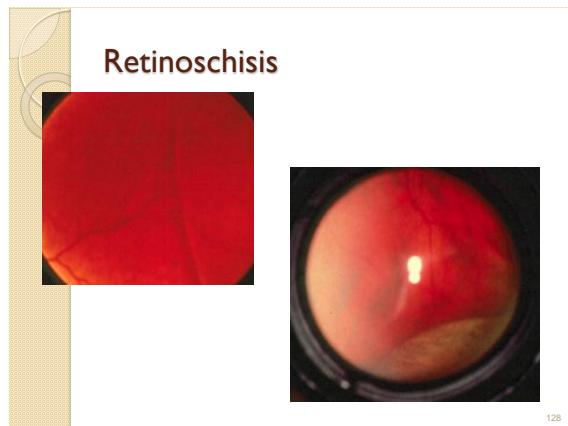
Note wrinkled inferior retina

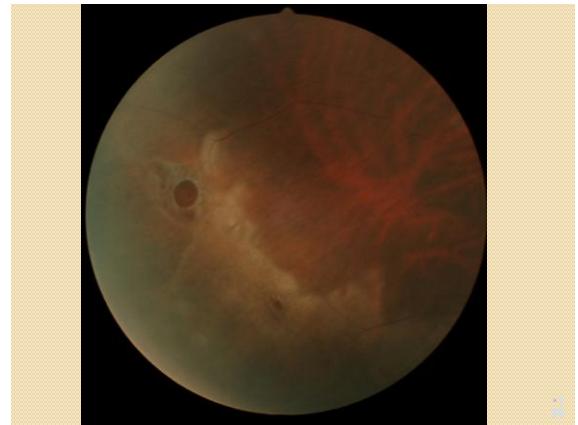
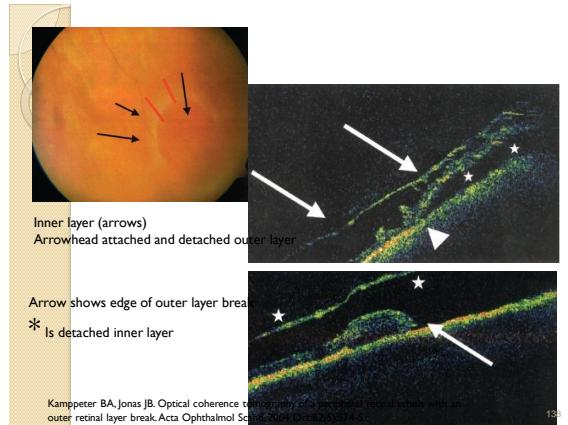
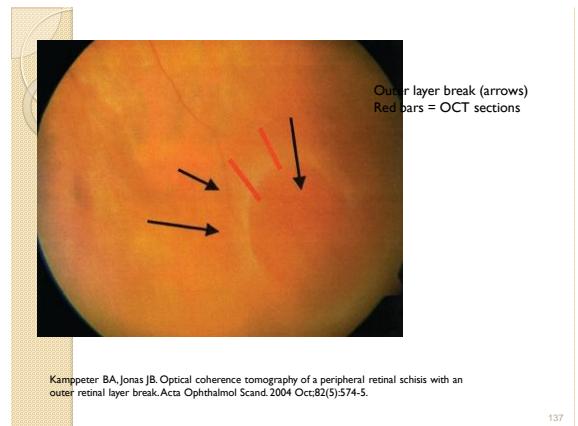
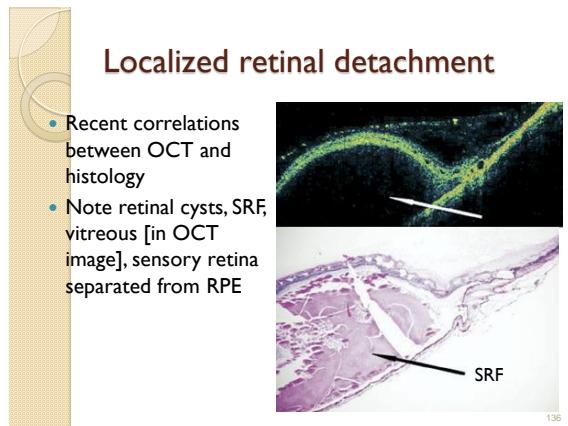
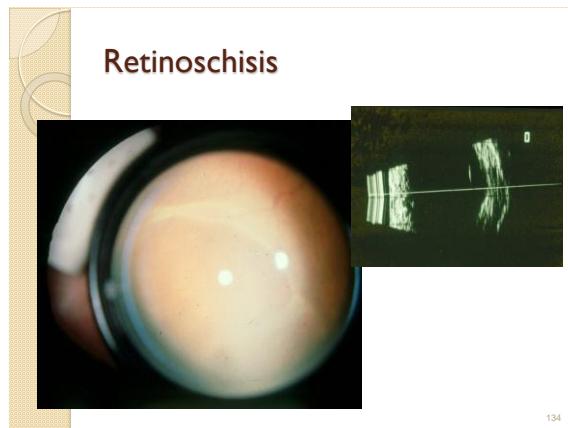
126

Retinoschisis (49 M)



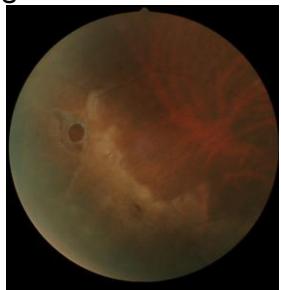
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Atrophic Retinal Hole w/o significant SRF w/in WWOP

• Management ?



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Prophylaxis Guidelines - Symptomatic Patients

Lesion	Treatment
• Flap Tear	Frequently
• Operculated Holes	Sometimes
• Atrophic Holes	NO

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Prophylaxis Guidelines - Asymptomatic Patients

Lesion	Circumstance	Treatment	Alternative
Flap Tear	Fellow Eye/Cataract Sx	Frequently	Rarely otherwise
Operc. Holes	Regardless	Rarely	Rarely (<u>Fellow Eye</u>)
Atr. Holes	NONE	NO	Rarely (<u>Fellow Eye</u>)
Subclinical RD*	Fellow Eye/Cataract Sx Hi Myopia, Pseudophakia	Frequently	Sometimes if Phakic

*2% will progress to RD and 2% will spontaneously regress (8 mo – 33 yr F/U)
(Byer NE. Ophthalmology 2001; 108:1499-1504)

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Final Thought...

Always assess the status of the vitreous (i.e., “attached or detached”; “clear or cloudy”)

And examine the retina in profile.

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