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Clinical Image

Close Up on Zonular Cataract

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We present the case of a 55-year-old gentleman who experienced visual impairment in his left eye with no pas history of trauma, his visual acuity was 4/10. Upon biomicroscopic examination following pupil dilation, we observed shell-like white opacities enveloping the lens nucleus, accompanied by white opacities within the zonular fibers, indicative of zonular cataract (Figure 1).

Characterized as one of the prevalent forms of congenital cataracts, zonular cataract also named lamellar often arises from mutations in CRYAA and CRYGC genes, responsible for encoding αA- and γC-crystallins, crucial structural proteins of the lens. The opacity observed typically matches the lens diameter at the cataract's onset age, elucidating its relatively small size.

It's crucial to recognize that not all instances of zonular cataracts stem from inheritance. As it can also manifest as an acquired condition, emerging later in life due to factors like trauma, radiation exposure, or specific medications.

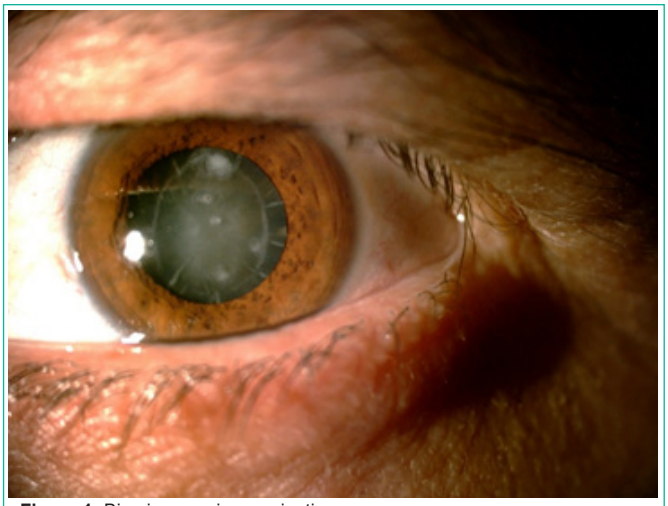

Figure 1: Biomicroscopic examination.

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