

Case Report

Posterior Subluxation of Hypermature Cataract

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Description

We report the case of an 82-year-old female patient who presented to the ophthalmologic emergency room with decreased visual acuity in the right eye for several years. Ophthalmologic examination of the right eye revealed visual acuity reduced to positive light perception, a clear cornea, a subluxated hypermature cataract inferiorly in the posterior segment (Figure 1), and an ocular tone of 30mmhg. An ocular ultrasound was performed and came back without any abnormalities. The patient was put on hypotonizing therapy. Intracapsular extraction of the cataract with an anterior vitrectomy was performed in the patient with a good postoperative evolution and normalization of the ocular tone.

Hypermature cataract is defined as the stage of senile cataract in which the entire lens capsule is wrinkled and the contents have become solid and shrunken or soft and liquid. All the cataracts should be operated before they reach the stage of hypermaturity, as chances of intra- and postoperative complications are high in cases with hypermature cataracts [1]. It is a rare clinical form in developed countries where cataracts are managed early, however it remains quite frequent in our context. The largest series are published in India, Pakistan and China [2]. It is an emergency which imposes first of all a preparation to the surgery by hypotonisants and anti-inflammatory drugs; however this treatment is often [3].

Emphasis should be placed on prevention of this clinical form by facilitating access to scheduled cataract surgery as the best treatment.

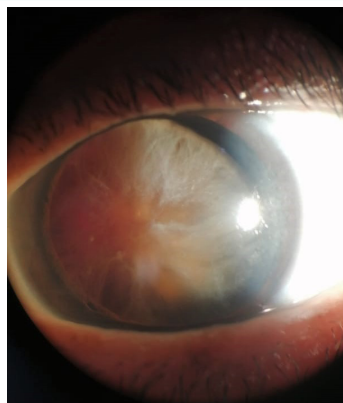


Figure 1: Subluxated hypermature cataract.

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