# **SLOW LOSS OF VISION**

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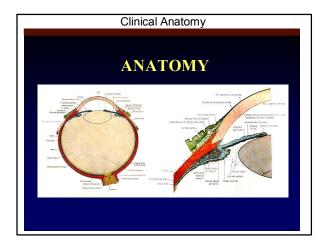
# SLOW LOSS OF VISION

- Glaucoma
- Cataract
- Macular Degeneration
- Amblyopia/Strabismus

# Epidemiology of Glaucoma

- · Major cause of blindness
- 1% of all Americans >40 increasing to 3% in those >70
- · Another 3-6% of Americans at risk
- · There are multiple forms of glaucoma
- Higher risk populations:
  - Elderly (those over 65)
  - Diabetes Mellitus
  - African-Americans
  - Those with myopia
  - Family history of glaucoma

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# Pathophysiology of Glaucoma

- Anatomy
  - Aqueous production and outflow
- Elevated intraocular pressure is a common, but not necessary, feature
- Damage
  - Optic Atrophy/Excavation
  - Visual Field Defects

### Glaucoma

- · Four Clinical Presentations
  - Primary Open Angle Glaucoma
  - Primary Angle Closure Glaucoma
  - Secondary Glaucoma
  - Congenital Glaucoma

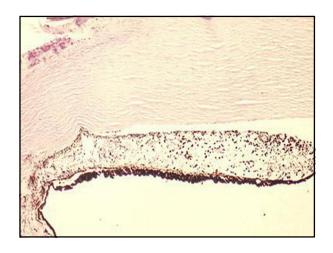
#### Glaucoma

- · Primary Open Angle Glaucoma
  - Most common type (70% of all glaucoma cases)
  - Familial disease, hereditary
  - Bilateral
  - Caused by acquired impairment of aqueous drainage through the trabecular meshwork
  - Marked by progressive constriction of the field of vision, excavation of optic nerve head and often (but not always) elevated intraocular pressure (IOP); painless

#### Glaucoma

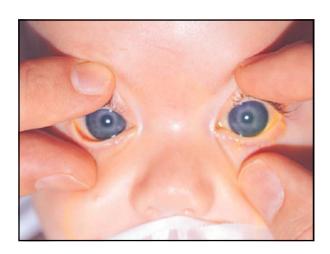
- Acute Angle Closure Glaucoma ("Narrow Angle")
  - An ophthalmic emergency
  - Rare form of disease
  - Occurs when root of iris blocks the drainage mechanism in patients with anatomically shallow anterior chambers





# Glaucoma

- Congenital Glaucoma
  - Relatively rare form
  - Caused by congenitally imperfect aqueous humor drainage mechanism
- · Secondary Glaucoma
  - Result of damage to drainage mechanism by other intraocular disorders, e.g., inflammation, after surgery, traumatic, diabetes





#### Signs and Symptoms: Primary Open Angle and Acute Angle Closure Glaucoma

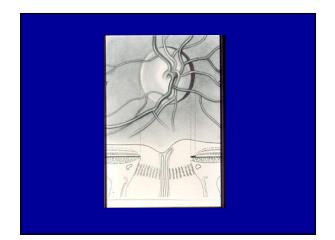
- · Primary Open Angle
  - Painless, usually asymptomatic, progressive visual loss
  - Sx do not usually appear until late in the disease
  - Visual Field Loss
  - Increased cupping
  - +/- increase IOP
  - Occasional early sign: decreased vision in dark or at twilight
- · Acute Angle Closure
  - Onset acute
  - Severely painful, red eye with blurred vision
  - Mid-dilated, unreactive pupil
  - Steamy cornea
  - Peri-orbital pain
  - +/- nausea/vomiting
  - Halos around light
  - Increased IOP
  - Think hyperopic patients

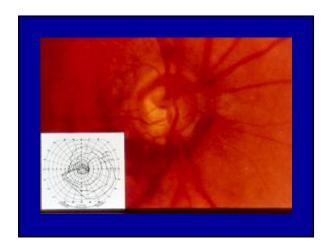
# Signs and Symptoms: Congenital and Secondary Glaucoma

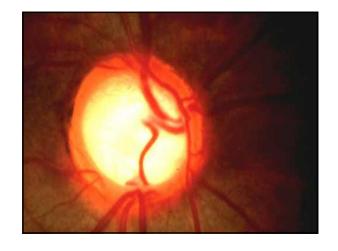
- Congenital
  - Tearing
  - Photophobia
  - Enlarged eye
  - Steamy cornea
  - Increased IOP
- Secondary
  - Onset acute
  - History of ocular trauma or other ocular diseases
  - Severely painful, red eve
  - Steamy cornea
  - Peri-orbital pain
  - +/- nausea/vomiting
  - Increased IOP

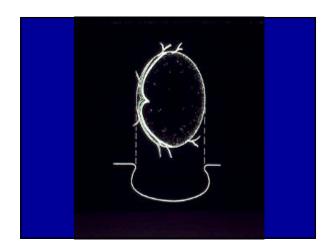
# Examination for Glaucoma

- Intraocular pressure
- Ophthalmoscopy
- Visual Field Testing









# Management of Glaucoma

- Management of all forms involves lowering the IOP
- Treatments Include
  - Medication (drops)
  - Laser
  - Surgery



# Glaucoma Medications

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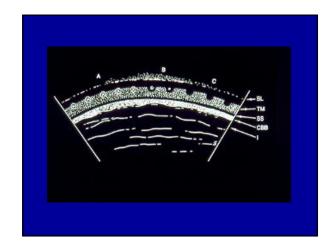
- GREEN: Parasympathomimetics
 - YELLOW, BLUE: Beta adrenergic blockers
 - ORANGE: Carbonic anhydrase inhibitors

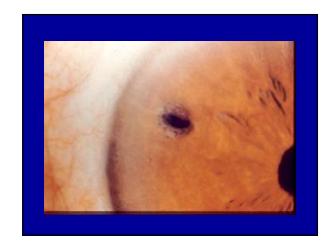
– PURPLE: Alpha-adrenergic agonists

– CLEAR: Prostoglandins– SYSTEMIC (pills): Acetozolamide

# Glaucoma Laser Treatement

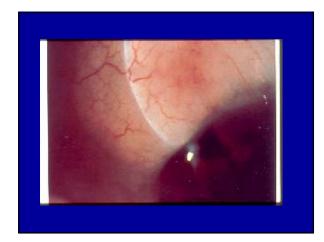
- Trabeculoplasty
  - for open angle glaucoma
- Iriodotomy
  - for angle closure glaucoma





# Glaucoma Surgical Treatment

- Trabeculectomy
  - With and without antimetabolites
  - Seton valves
- · Ciliary body destruction



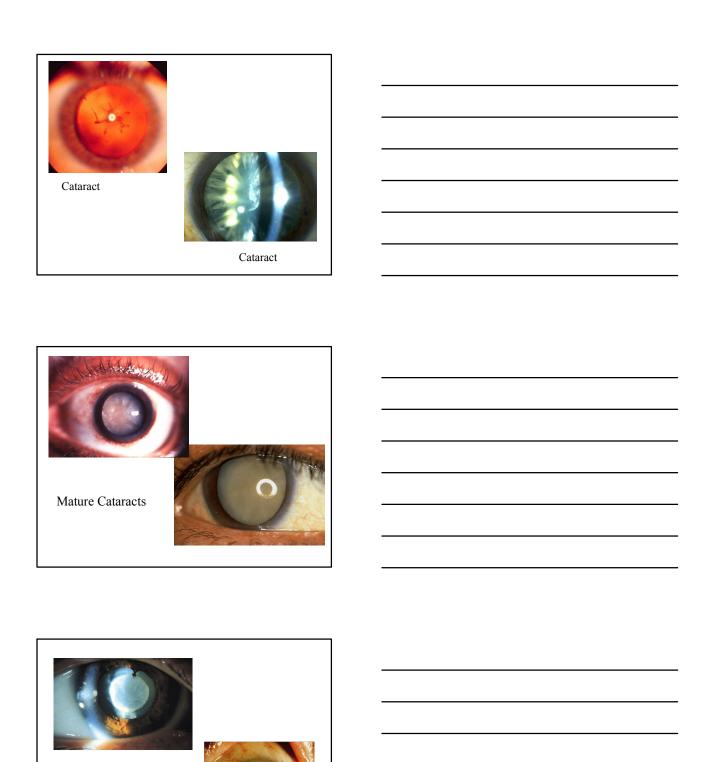
### SLOW LOSS OF VISION

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# Cataract

- Definition
  - An opacity in the normally transparent focusing lens of the eye that, as it becomes denser, interferes with clears site
- Causes
  - Most common: aging
  - Less common: intraocular diseases, trauma, medications, and metabolic, endocrine, or congenital abnormalites



Mature Cataracts

## Cataract: Epidemiology

- Most common cause of visual loss in the adult population
- By age 65, >90% of all people have cataracts
- May develop at any age (essential to detect in neonatal period to prevent amblyoplia)

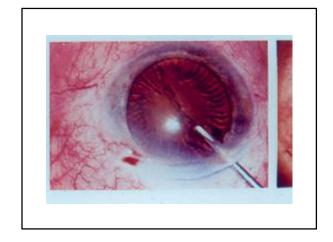
#### Cataract: Management

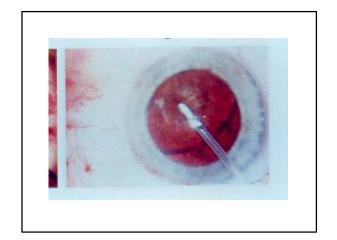
- · Treatment is surgical removal
  - Surgery is often deferred until decreased vision interferes with patient's ability to perform ADL
  - Surgery not deferred for above reasons:
    - In neonates
    - When the cataract interferes with the diagnosis or treatment of other ocular diseases, e.g., diabetes mellitus or a tumor
    - When the cataract causes other eye diseases, e.g. uveitis or glaucoma

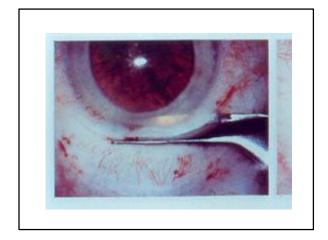
# Cataract: Management

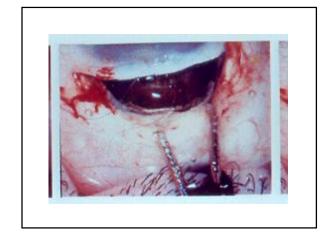
- Surgical removal
  - Most cataract surgery is done on an outpatient basis
  - Only the lens and anterior capsule are removed
  - After cataract removal eye is aphakic and optical power is restored by an intraocular lens, an eyeglass lens, or a contact lens
  - Visual acuity is restored to precataract levels in more than 99% of uncomplicated cases.

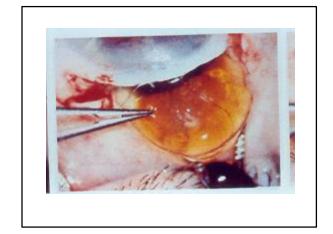
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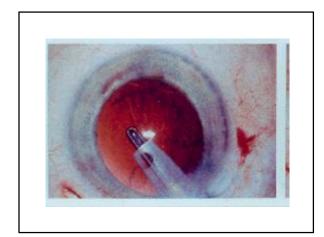


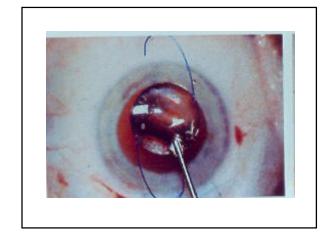


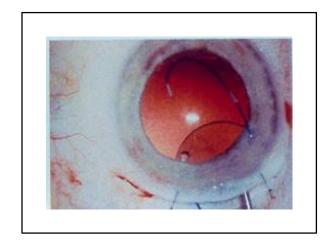


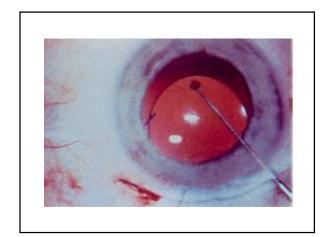












# Complications

- Complications (rare):
  - Retinal detachment
  - Macular edema
  - Chronic Uveitis
  - Keratopathy

### **CATARACT SURGERY**

Let's go to the videotape

Stony Brook Ophthalmology Stuart Fourman MD Example Small Incision Cataract Surgery

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- Age-Related Macular Degeneration
  - Etiology
    - older age, women, family history, RPE atrophy
  - Exam
    - drusen-hyaline degeneration of RPE
    - break in Bruch's
    - · choroidal vessels bleed
    - NO APD



### Slow Loss of Vision

- Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD)
  - Symptoms
    - gradual/rapid loss of vision
    - metamorphopsia-Amsler grid
    - scotomata
    - no APD



# Slow Loss of Vision

- Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD)
  - Treatment
    - vitamins-A, C, E, zinc
    - delays progression
    - fluorescein angiogram
    - laser
    - newer modalities of laser, intravitreal steroids, antiangiogenesis agents



- Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD)
  - Keys
    - will not go totally blind
    - 20/400 endpoint
    - use of low vision aids





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# Slow Loss of Vision

- Amblyopia
  - "lazy eye"
  - suppression of vision in 2% of people
  - onset prior to age 7
- Strabismus
  - misaligned eyes, "crossed, wandering eyes"
  - affects 4% of children
  - esotropia-inward turning
  - exotropia-outward turning

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- · Amblyopia
  - Block in normal visual development
  - Lack of binocular mapping of the environment
  - Decrease synapses within lateral geniculate body (even atrophy)
  - Lack of alignment of eyes
  - Lack of fusion, decrease stereovision

### Slow Loss of Vision

- · Amblyopia
  - Decreased vision, usually since birth
  - Strabismus (misaligmment of eyes)
  - Visual preference, head tilt

### Slow Loss of Vision

- · Amblyopia/Strabismus
  - Esotropia-in-turning eyes
  - Exotropia-out-turning eyes





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- Amblyopia/Strabismus
- Treatment

  - Correct refractive error/glasses
    Treat ocular disease cataracts
  - Occlusion
  - Surgery-move eye muscles









### Slow Loss of Vision

- Amblyopia/Strabismus
  - Preventable cause of blindness
  - Critical period
  - Risk until age 10

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