

### Challenging Cases: Front to Back

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### Disclosure

- Presenter is on speakers panel of Alcon, Allergan, J.J. Bausch + Lomb, Tear Lab, Ocusoft, BVI, Bruder, Reichert
- AOA CE Chair
- OCCRS-Past President
- Presenter has NO financial interest in any products mentioned
- Except he does have stock in a certain coffee company...

### Case SS

- 71 year old retired Military and secret service agent
- Hasn't had eyes checked in a few years
- VA 20/20 OU with low hyperopic/astigmatic RX
- SLE: mild bleph, trace NSC
- Posterior pole:



### Case SS

- A: HH plaque OS
- P: refer for carotid doppler
- Labs
- refer to PCP for management of other risk factors
- Vascular clinic dependent on carotid study

### Case SS: Labs

- Labs
- BP: 134/88
- Weight: 236
- BMI: 38.2
- A1c: 9.9 (H)
- Triglycerides: 173 (H)
- HDL: 31.2 (L)
- PCP: diet, education, start insulin

### Case SS

- Carotid:
  - Right: non hemodynamically significant soft calcific plaque at left carotid bifurcation
  - Left: 50-69% ICA stenosis
- Vascular clinic:
  - Monitor left carotid q 6 mos. as no symptoms in last year
  - Start ASA therapy

### Retinal Plaques

- Several different types of plaques can often be visualized in the retinal vasculature
- PT is typically elderly, has HTN, CAD, hypercholesterolemia/hyperlipidemia, and/or other ocular disease
- Often totally asymptomatic and found on routine exam

### RISK FACTORS

- Age
- HTN
- Vascular disease
- Past vascular surgery
- SMOKING
- High TOTAL cholesterol
- Men > women

### Prevalence

- Beaver Dam Eye Study: 1.3%
  - smoking, HTN and DM
  - 9x more likely after age 75 vs. 43-54
    - after 75, 3.1% prevalence
    - Equates to 1.2 million people with emboli 43-86
    - 450,000 are 75-95
    - Age structure in US may over 8 years in p5 with emboli, adding for other factors
- ODOS
- Bilateral very infrequently

### Prevalence

- Blue Mountain Eye Study: 1.4%
  - HTN, smoking, vascular disease
- LA Latino Eye Study: 0.4%
  - smoking, CAD, 1/6 MI, HTN
- Singapore Eye Study: 0.6%
  - smoking, high cholesterol, 1/6 angina

### Retinal Plaques

- May present with amaurosis fugax, transient episodes of monocular blindness
- Rarely, may report transient ischemic attack (TIA), which is above with hemiparesis, parasthesia or aphasia

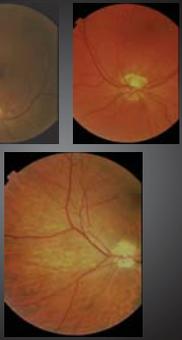
### Retinal plaques

- Three different types of plaques, but all share strong association to significant cardiovascular disease
  - HH 80% > fibrino-platelet 14% > calcific 6%

### Retinal Plaques

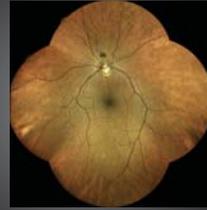
- Cholesterol (Hollenhorst) plaque
  - Most common
  - shiny yellow-orange in appearance
  - from plaque in the ipsilateral carotid artery
  - Rarely causes occlusion, unless multiple
  - Typically occurs at bifurcations
  - Mobile in nature

### Cholesterol Plaques

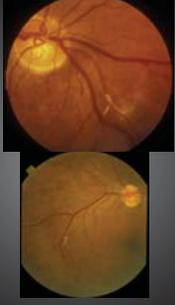


### Retinal Plaques

- Fibrino-platelet
  - Appear as dull white to gray, long plugs
  - Typically within arterioles, not at bifurcations
  - May break-up and dissolve with time
  - May lead to BRAO or CRAO
  - Often associated with carotid disease or mitral valve insufficiency



### Fibrino-platelet Plaques



### Calcific Plaques



### Retinal Plaques

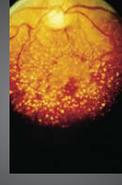
- Calcific
  - Appears more whitish than HH
  - Dull, non-reflective, white
  - Classically within arteriole, not at bifurcation
  - Typically immobile
  - Most dangerous, as often cause BRAO
  - Often from cardiac atheromas of heart valves

### Retinal plaques

- Talc retinopathy
  - Represents an exogenous plaques as opposed to others
  - Appears typically as multiple shiny yellow plaques within capillaries in posterior pole
  - Typically smaller than other plaques
  - Rarely cause complications, but reported cases of associated NV and occlusions

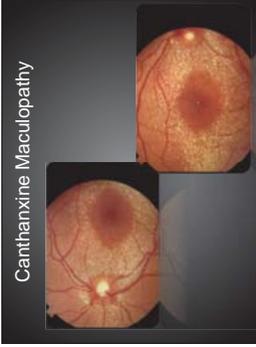
### Others

- Tamoxifen Maculopathy (Nalvadex)



### Talc Retinopathy





### Retinal plaques

- No direct management of plaques is needed
- Management is aimed at discovering source of embolus to decrease risk of other emboli, occlusion, or stroke
- Pls need referral to internist for complete physical

### Retinal Plaques

- Assess risk factors with POP
  - DN, HTN, lipid panels
- Carotid ultrasound
- MRA: non-invasive image with 2D/3D
- TEE: invasive, probe into esophagus to image heat valves
  - Helpful with calcific
- CTA: CT scan of arteries construct 3D images

### Retinal Plaques

- <50-60% occlusion
  - ORAL TREATMENT
    - Anti-Platelet
      - ASA
    - Anti-coagulation
      - Comarin, plavix
    - Cholesterol meds
- >70-99%
  - SURGICAL TREATMENT
    - Carotid endarterectomy
    - Angioplasty
  - Reduces risk of future stroke!

### Carotid Ultrasound

- First line screening test
- ORDER WITHIN TWO WEEKS!
- Identifies flow rate and % stenosis
- Common, internal, and external
- Only ~20% of asymptomatic emboli will have significant carotid stenosis

### Is it worth working up these patients?

- 18% of pts with retinal emboli had internal or common carotid stenosis >75%
- Higher incidence of stroke
  - 8.5% with normal vs 0.9% per year
- Pls with cholesterol, any emboli have 15% mortality at 1 yr, 25% by year 3, and 54% by 7 years

### 43 yo female

- "It felt like something was stabbing my eye"
- "This happened another time and I had to use my right eye to use my left at night"
- Type II Diabetes
- NKMA

"IT REALLY HURTS"

### Retinal Plaques

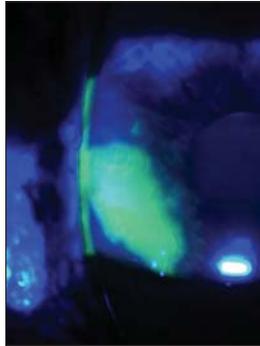
- After ruling out underlying etiology, see patient regularly, q 6-12 mos, to evaluate for additional plaques or other disease associated with vascular disease
  - BRVO/CRAO
  - NTG

### THE "PREVENTED" CORNEAL EROSION

### THE RECURRENT EROSION

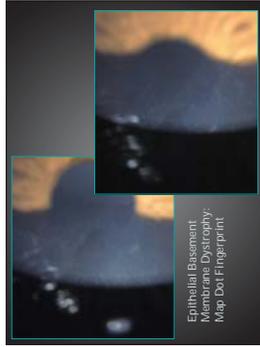
VA: 20/100 PH 20/30  
SLIT-LAMP: SUPERFICIAL SUPERIOR ABRASION + STAINING

DX: CORNEAL EROSION

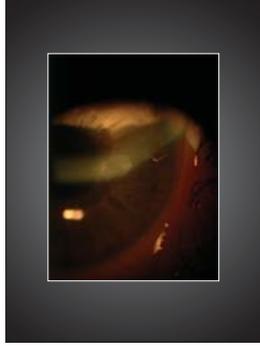
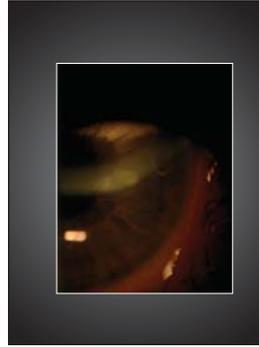


What are some leading causes of RCE?

EBMD



Epithelial Basement Membrane Dystrophy: Map Dot Fingerprint



87% of all RCE occurs in what part of the cornea?  
**Inferior Cornea**  
Reidy JJ, Pauli MP et al. Cornea 2000 Nov.

46% of all patients in this study had EBMD

- James Reidy et al. Recurrent erosions of the cornea: epidemiology and treatment. Cornea. 2000 Nov; 19(6): 767-71
- The remainder had trauma induced causes
  - Fingernail
  - Paper cut, etc.

Non-Treatment:

- What medications should be avoided?
- Bland Artificial Tear Ointments

Eke J. et al. Recurrent symptoms following traumatic corneal abrasion. Eye. 1999 June.

Passive Treatment Of RCE

- DEBRIDE
  - Weck-Cell Spear
  - Alger brush
- Bandage Lens
- Broad-spectrum AB

RECURRENT CORNEAL EROSION

Study	Patients	Prevalence	CF
1	100	100%	100%
2	100	100%	100%
3	100	100%	100%
4	100	100%	100%
5	100	100%	100%
6	100	100%	100%
7	100	100%	100%
8	100	100%	100%
9	100	100%	100%
10	100	100%	100%
11	100	100%	100%
12	100	100%	100%
13	100	100%	100%
14	100	100%	100%
15	100	100%	100%
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43	100	100%	100%
44	100	100%	100%
45	100	100%	100%
46	100	100%	100%
47	100	100%	100%
48	100	100%	100%
49	100	100%	100%
50	100	100%	100%

Active Treatment...Dry or Wet?  
**NON-HEALING ABRASION**

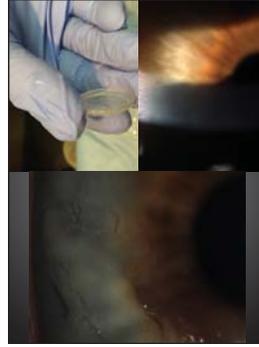
**TREATMENT**

STANDARD PROTOCOL:

- RCT
- ANTI-BIOTIC
- ANTI-INFLAMMATORY
- RTC
- NEW REGIMENT
- **AMNIOTIC MEMBRANE**
- LATERAL TARE TARSOGRAPHY
- PATIENT EDUCATION
- RTC 5 DAYS

**Amniotic Membrane**

- Amniotic membrane is the inner most lining of the placenta (fetus) and shares the same cell origin as the fetus
- Contains cytokines and growth factors
  - Anti-Inflammatory (protease inhibitors)
  - Anti-Apoptotic
  - Aids in rapid wound healing and re-epithelialization
  - Anti-Scarring

**Long Term TX Regimen Resolchirant RCE**

- FreshKote TID x 2 months
- Lotemax Gel QID x 2 weeks then BID x 6 weeks
- Doxy (20 or 50mg) BID x 2 months
- Restasis Bid!

**5 DAY FOLLOW-UP**

"THE PAIN IS GONE"  
 REMOVED PROKERA

- VASC: 20/15
- SLIT-LAMP: CORNEAL CLEAR

TX: RESTASIS BID  
 RTC 4-6 WEEKS

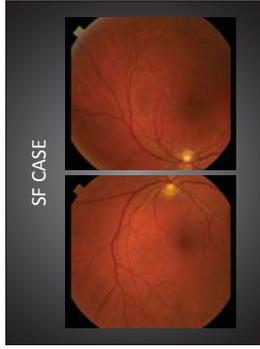


**SF CASE**

- 68 year old male
- Presents with c/o flashes floaters OD x 2 days
  - No pain
  - No change in acuity
- Med hx: Type 2 DM x 2 years, well controlled; HTN; ED
- Meds: Metformin, HCTZ, Lipitor, Viagra
- Oc Hx: Unremarkable

### SF CASE

- Entering VA: 20/25 OU
- SLE: WNL
- IOP 14 mm OU
- DFE:



### SF CASE

- Assessment:
  - Acute PVD OD
- Plan:
  - Pt education
  - Signs/symptoms of RD
  - RTC when?

### SF CASE

- Really no consensus
- Symptomatic PVD without retinal break
  - AAO: 1-2 weeks
  - AAO: depending on symptoms, risk factors and clinical findings:
    - 1-6 weeks
    - then 6 mo to 1 year
  - Cleveland Clinic: 4-6 Weeks
  - Others: If no hema or other issues, very low risk so no need to see to back.

### PVD

- Floaters are typically most common symptom
  - Cobwebs
  - Flies
  - Hairs
- Flashes
  - Indicative of traction on retina, but not necessarily a tear or break



### The Vitreous Humor

- Vitreous attached most firmly at:
  - Macula
    - WMT
  - Vitreous base
    - Around optic nerve head
    - Vessels, ring
    - Attachment on blood vessels
    - Vitreous

### Physiologic Changes

- With age, **hyaluronan** due to reduction in hyaluronic acid causes loss of support.
- This process is referred to as **synchysis**.

### Physiologic Changes

- Vitreous shrinkage, contraction and collapse can cause traction.
- This process is referred to as **synchysis**.

### Incidence of PVD

Age	Incidence
<30	RARE
30-59	10%
60-69	27%
>70	68%
>80	79%

- 65%->65 HAVE A PVD

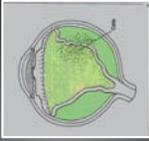
### Incidence of PVD

- Incidence may be accelerated by
  - Myopia
  - Trauma
  - Prior vitreoretinal disease
  - Surgery
  - Inflammation
- Symmetrical 90% of the time
- Happens to second eye with 1-2 years

### PVDs

- Good News:
  - Retinal Tears/Breaks: Relatively uncommon
  - One study only 7.15% of symptomatic PVDs have a retinal tear
  - 8-26% acute PVDs have an associated RB/RO at the time they present (Ophthalmology AAO 2014)
- Bad news:
  - 1/3 have a retinal break
  - The chance of RB there after is <5.5%

### Risk Factors



- Pigment
  - Schaffer's sign
    - Indicates break is possible
- Hemorrhage
  - 90% have break
- Inflammatory cells

### My recommendations

- DFE **WITH XALATAN THERAPY**
- DISCUSS SIGNS/SYMPTOMS OF RD
- RTC 6 WEEKS
- SEE UNTIL FLASHES SUBSIDE
- IF RISK FACTORS, CONSIDER REFERRAL TO RETINA
  - Vitreous hemorrh
  - Pt is Lawyer/father-in-law, etc
  - Just doesn't feel right

### Move...

### Case

### 48 YO HF

- Diagnosed with POAG 1995
- Diagnosis made by ophthalmologist in Minnesota
- Relocated to Phoenix, assume care
- Untreated peak IOP
  - OD=27mm Hg
  - OS=29mm Hg

### 48 YO HF

#### Treatment History

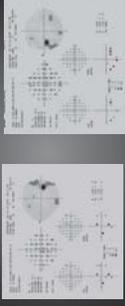
- Initial therapy, Timolol 0.5%
  - Discontinued after 2 months
  - Side effects of bradycardia & fatigue
- Current Medical Regimen:
  - Xalatan 0.02% qpm x 2 yrs

### 48 YO HF

- Since starting Xalatan IOP readings:
  - OD=17-19mm Hg
  - OS=18-20mm Hg
- Previous doctor felt that patient was being "safely" treated at this IOP level.

### 48 YO HF

#### VF 2 yrs ago



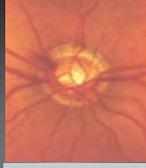
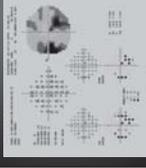
### 48 YO HF

#### Initial Exam in Phoenix

- BCVA 20/20 OU
- – RAPD
- IOP OD=17mm Hg OS=18mm Hg
- Subjectively, the patient
  - Reports excellent compliance
  - Denies any side-effects

### 48 YO HF

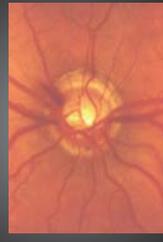
#### Left Eye: Phoenix ancillary tests

### Visual Field Progression in upper teens



### Disc hemorrhage suggests Upper teens are NOT low enough



WHAT WOULD YOU DO NEXT?

OBA Reicht: **MORE TESTING IS NEEDED**

Understand the Cornea, Understand the Pressure  
 Corneal Biomechanics and Accurate IOP in One Simple Instrument



**Key Features**

- OBA is the only device in the world capable of measuring Corneal Hysteresis (CH), which is an indicator of bio-mechanical properties of the cornea (its "spring" or "soft" nature).
- CH is independently predictive of visual field progression, which helps clinicians make better informed decisions about glaucoma treatment.
- CH is superior to Humphrey CCT as a glaucoma risk assessment tool.
- CH features an "invented" corneal stiffness (OCS) as an IOP measurement that is less influenced by corneal properties than other tonometers, including Goldmann.
- This is superior to CCT based IOP adjustment, which has not been validated.
- There are over 425 peer-reviewed publications about OBA in the literature.
- OBA is flat, objective, non-contact, and operates freely.



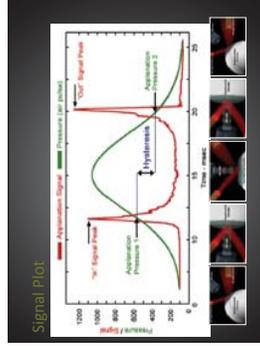
**Hysteresis: Not a New Concept**

Dr. James Alfred Ewing first introduced the term in 1890. A measurement that characterizes response to application and removal of force (load/unload).  
 - Force, stress applied to them but load/unload, or displacement, or strain energy.  
 More than 7000 papers published on hysteresis.  
 - The importance of corneal hysteresis in glaucoma.  
 - Various factors that affect hysteresis, such as age, sex, and ethnicity.  
 - Corneal hysteresis is a key factor in glaucoma risk assessment.

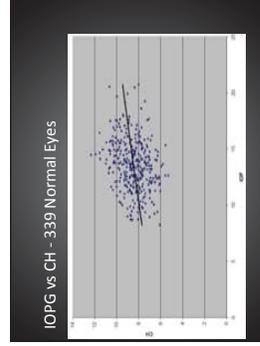
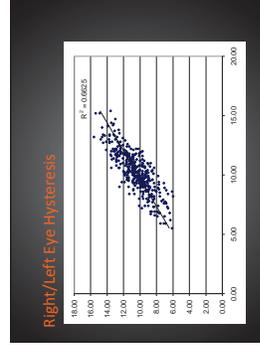
**Basic Parameters**

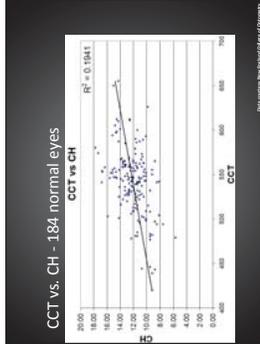
OBA  
 +IORe - Goldmann Correlated IOP  
 +IOCC - Corneal Compensated IOP  
 +CH - Corneal Hysteresis  
 +CFR - Corneal Resistance Factor

ZOE  
 +IORe - Goldmann Correlated IOP  
 +IOCC - Corneal Compensated IOP



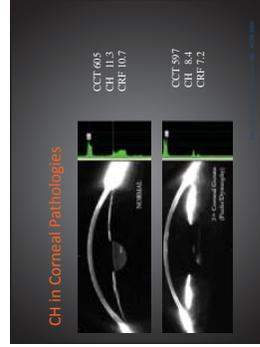
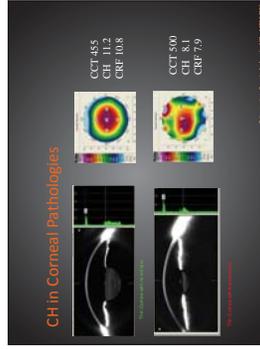
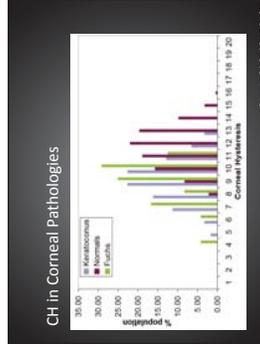
Corneal Hysteresis: A New Ocular Parameter



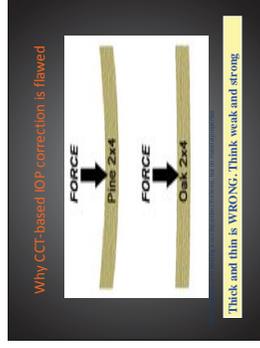
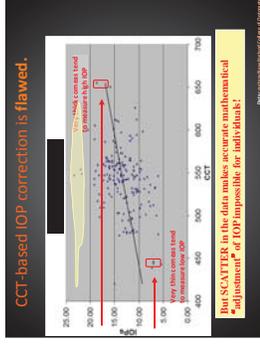
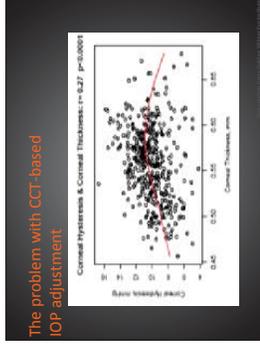


### Normal CH values - Summary of published results

Author	Age (y)	CH (mmHg)
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	10.1 ± 1.5
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	10.7 ± 2.0
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	10.8 ± 2.3
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	10.9 ± 2.3
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	11.1 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	11.2 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	11.3 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	11.4 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	11.5 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	11.6 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	11.7 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	11.8 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	11.9 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	12.0 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	12.1 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	12.2 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	12.3 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	12.4 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	12.5 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	12.6 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	12.7 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	12.8 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	12.9 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	13.0 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	13.1 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	13.2 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	13.3 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	13.4 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	13.5 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	13.6 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	13.7 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	13.8 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	13.9 ± 2.4
Alm & Jorgensen (1996)	50-65	14.0 ± 2.4

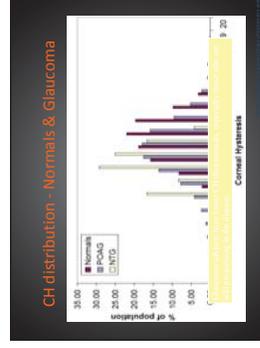


### The Cornea, IOP, and Glaucoma



### The Cornea and Glaucoma

Numerous studies, such as the Ocular Hypertension Treatment Study, have shown that CCT thickness is an independent indicator of glaucoma risk. More recent research has indicated that the Corneal Hysteresis measurement appears to be even more powerful in this regard.

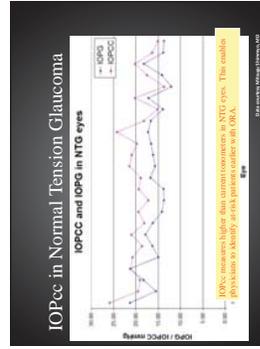
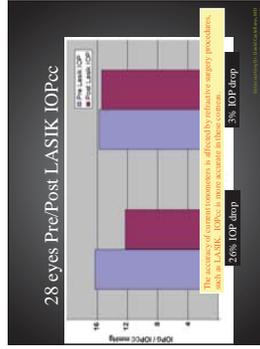
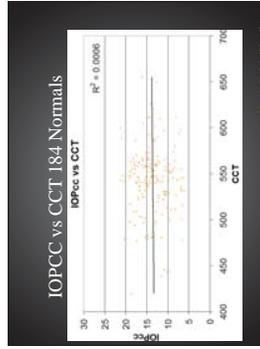
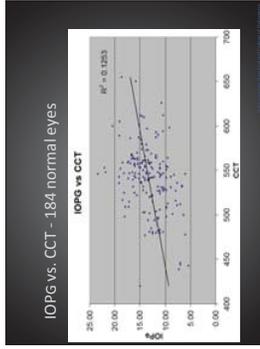
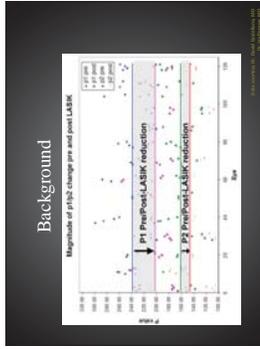


### Define & Describe IOpcc

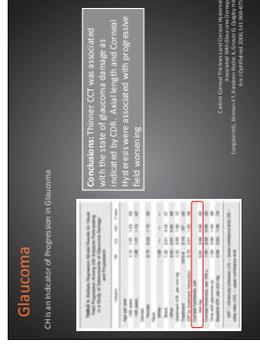
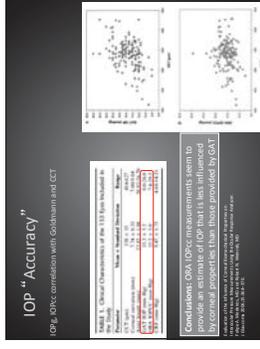
#### Corneal-Compensated Intraocular Pressure

An Intraocular Pressure measurement that is designed to match the geometry of the eye, and is not affected by corneal geometry. It is a measure of the pressure of the fluid in the eye (IOPcc).

IOpcc has essentially zero correlation with CCT in normal eyes and stays relatively constant post-LDk. IOpcc has been shown to be more associated with progressive field loss than IOP. IOpcc = IOP - (0.43 \* PPA)



### A Summary of ORA Clinical Findings



- ### 48 YO HF
- CH OD: 7.3 OS: 6.9
  - IOP G OD: 19 mm Hg IOPcc OD: 25 mm Hg
  - IOP G OS: 17 mm Hg IOPcc OS: 2
  - Patient switched from Xal to Lumigan
  - IOP at 2 wks after switch
  - IOPcc OD=12mm Hg
  - IOPcc OS=13mm Hg
  - IOP 3 months after switch
  - IOPcc OD=9mm Hg
  - IOPcc OS=11mm Hg

48 YO HF Summary

- AGIS 7 asserts that IOP reduction correlates with visual field preservation.
- Low teens preserve visual field better than upper teens
- Fewer medications improve compliance

NEXT ...

### Fuch's Dystrophy

- Autosomal dominant inheritance
- Bilateral / Asymmetry
- Late onset > 50 y.o.
- Females affected 3 times more than males
- ~5.7% develop edema
- Characterized
  - Corneal guttata
  - Excessive accumulation of abnormal endothelial secretions
  - Appears in 3rd/4th year of life

### Fuch's Dystrophy

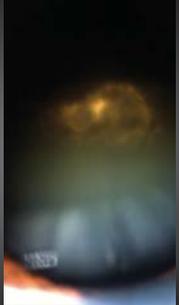
- Characterized
  - Corneal Guttata
    - Small, white, "peppercorn" on corneal endothelium
    - Affects the "pump" action of the endothelium
  - Edema
    - Greater in the AM
    - Occurs as day gets on
    - Excessive accumulation of abnormal endothelial secretions lead to corneal swelling
    - ECT's common

### Case Study

- 67 year old WM
- "My vision is not good...I have blurred vision. My eyes cry a lot too. They cry all the time."
- NIDDM (diet controlled 15 years)
- NKMA
- History of skin lesion removed from cheek

### Case Study

- VACC
  - 20/30 (PH-20/20) OD
  - 20/100 (PH-20/70) OS
- SLEX
  - 2+ guttae-OU
  - Mild pigment on endo-OU
  - 1/2+ NSC/Tx; PSC-OD
  - 2+NSC/2+ PSC-OS



### Cataract Surgery OS

- VASC
  - 20/100
  - 2-3+ Striae
  - 3+ POE
  - 1+ cells
  - Lens centered
  - IOP
    - \* 14 mmHg (OIA)

### Fuch's Dystrophy

- Symptoms vary with degree of guttata and compromise of the endothelial tissue
- Moderate guttata
  - May affect visual function
  - May induce mild-moderate edema
    - Hazy vision > a.m.
    - Halos around lights
- Severe guttata
  - Vision decreases
  - Possible bullous develops

### FUCH'S DYSTROPHY



### Fuch's Dystrophy

- Treatment
  - Early stages of disease
    - Increase artificial tears
    - Hyperosmotic q/s
    - RCL used if bullous is present
  - EDUCATION!
  - Visual function is significantly compromised
    - Penetrating keratoplasty
    - Deep lamellar endothelial keratoplasty (DLEK)
    - Endothelial stripping automated endothelial keratoplasty (DSAEK)

### Fuch's Dystrophy



**Fuch's Dystrophy**

- DLEK
  - recipient cornea is stripped of Descemet's membrane and endothelium
  - Transplantation of donor cornea through small incision
  - Results in
    - improve endothelial function, corneal clarity and restores vision
  - Minimally affects refraction
  - Can provide rapid visual recovery
  - Maintains structural integrity of the cornea

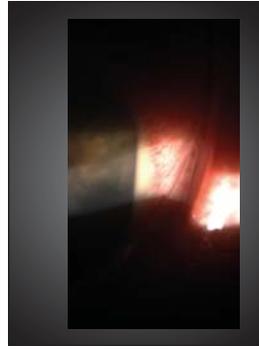
**Case Study**



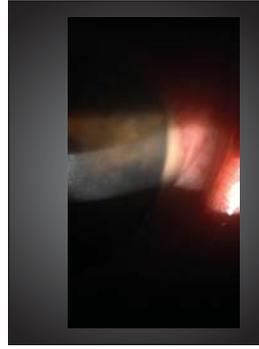
- 6 months PO
  - VACC
  - 20/30 OS
  - SLEK
    - Well centered lens
    - 3+ guttata
    - Mild pigmentendo
  - IOP - 15 mmHg (OIA)

**Case Study**

- 13 months later
  - Patient calls....
  - "Sorry to bother you on a Sunday, but my eye is blurry today and it hurts a little."
  - "I have seen the corneal surgeon recently and he said my cornea looked good."
  - "I was 20/30. Today it is not so great."
  - SO.... I head into see patient...



**CASE STUDY**



**Case**

**I am seeing RED**

**Red Eye Day**

- Case 2
  - 52 yo female
  - Contact lens wearer
  - Red eye x 3 hours
  - No discomfort, but feels dry
  - VA unaffected
  - No systemic meds other than OTC allergy
- Case 3
  - 45 yo female
  - Uncomfortable eye
  - On and off x 8 months
  - Positive allergy history
  - No systemic meds other than OTC allergy
- Overall good health

**What do these have in common?**

**Conjunctival Redundancy**  
**Conjunctivochalasis**

- Defined as a redundant loose nonvascularized inferior
- Located between the globe and inferior eyelid
- Conjunctival folds lying along the inferior lid margin
- Some proposed causes:
  - Aging
  - Ocular surface inflammation
  - Dehydrated tear film (cause or symptom?)
  - More common in females
  - Co-existing pingueculae
  - More common in blepharitis patients
- Patients are usually asymptomatic, however correct diagnosis is crucial in symptomatic patients

**Redundant Conjunctival Folds**

**Conjunctival Redundancy**  
**Conjunctivochalasis**

**CONJUNCTIVOCALASIS: A Cause of Itching and Irritation.**

**By Andrew H. Williams, MD**

**Abstract**

Conjunctivochalasis is a common ocular condition characterized by loose folds of conjunctiva in the inferior eyelid. It is most likely caused by mechanical stretching of the conjunctiva over time, which leads to the formation of redundant folds. These folds can be associated with symptoms of itching and irritation, particularly in the inferior eyelid. The condition is more common in females and is often associated with aging. Treatment options include conservative management with artificial tears and lubricants, or surgical removal of the redundant conjunctiva in severe cases. Conjunctivochalasis should be distinguished from other causes of conjunctival redundancy, such as conjunctivitis or allergic conjunctivitis, which may require different management strategies. A review of the literature of the current topic is presented, and a clinical case is discussed.

**Key words:** conjunctivochalasis, conjunctival folds, itching, irritation.

### Conjunctival Redundancy Conjunctivochalasis

**Clinical Ophthalmology**

**Clinical characteristics of patients with conjunctivochalasis**

**DEFINITION**  
Redundant conjunctiva that protrudes over the cornea and sclera, forming a fold that interferes with tear drainage.

**CAUSES**  
Age-related degeneration of the conjunctiva, leading to laxity and redundancy. It is often associated with other ocular conditions such as dry eye disease, blepharitis, and eyelid malpositions.

**SYMPTOMS**  
Patients may experience irritation, foreign body sensation, and tearing. The redundant tissue can also interfere with contact lens wear and may lead to recurrent conjunctivitis.

**DIAGNOSIS**  
Clinical examination of the eye, showing the characteristic fold of conjunctiva over the ocular surface.

**TREATMENT**  
Observation and lubrication are often sufficient. In severe cases, surgical resection of the redundant tissue may be required.

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### ALL YOU SEE IS THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG

**Ocular Surface**

**Eyeid & Fornix**

**Loose conjunctival tissue due to degenerated Tenon's**

### Anatomical Tear Reservoir

**A DRY RESERVOIR TRANSFLATS TO A DRY OCULAR SURFACE**

### Go to the Source:

Hydrodynamic Modeling Reveals the Source of Dry Eye

1. FORNIX

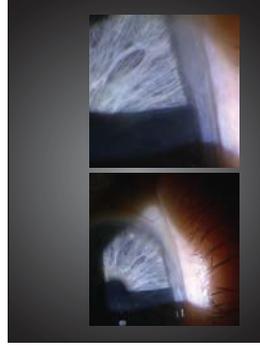
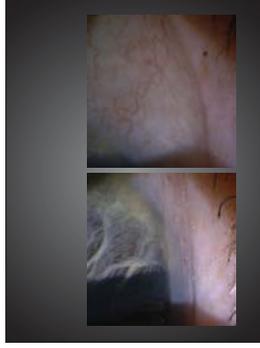
2. MENISCUS

3. OCULAR SURFACE

### Conjunctival Redundancy Conjunctivochalasis

**Symptoms:**

- Tearing/epiphora- especially with nasal folds due to blockage of punctum
- Dryness\*
- FBS
- Redness
- Eye pain
- Blurry vision, especially in down gaze



### How Is Tear Flow Interfered by CCh?

- 1. The redundant tissue can block the tear drainage system, leading to tearing and epiphora.
- 2. The redundant tissue can cause irritation and dryness, leading to a dry eye.
- 3. The redundant tissue can cause foreign body sensation and eye pain.
- 4. The redundant tissue can cause blurry vision, especially in down gaze.

**Why are some CCh patients NOT symptomatic?**

### What Are Unique Clinical Features of Dry Eye Caused by CCh?

Distiguishing Feature	ATD Dry Eye	CCD Dry Eye
<b>Symptoms</b>	Worse in the morning	Worse throughout the day
<b>Visual Disturbance</b>	Intermittent	Intermittent
<b>History of Systemic Disease</b>	None	None
<b>Response to Systemic Therapy</b>	None	None
<b>Response to Topical Therapy</b>	None	None
<b>Response to Surgery</b>	None	None
<b>Response to Lubrication</b>	None	None
<b>Response to Punctal Occlusion</b>	None	None

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### Conjunctival Redundancy Conjunctivochalasis

Conjunctival redundancy is a common clinical finding that may be associated with conjunctivochalasis. It is characterized by an overgrowth of conjunctival tissue that protrudes into the tear meniscus. This can lead to irritation and discomfort. Treatment options include surgical resection of the redundant tissue.

**Conjunctival Redundancy**  
 • Treatment:  
 – Lubricants  
 – Antihistamines  
 – Topical Steroids  
 – Surgical resection of the conjunctiva

### Conjunctival Redundancy Conjunctivochalasis

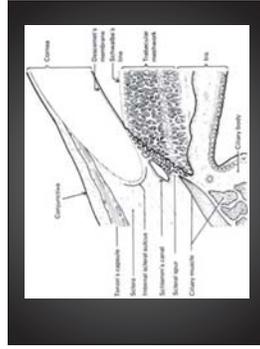
**Conjunctivochalasis**  
 • Treatment:  
 – Lubricants  
 – Antihistamines  
 – Topical Steroids  
 – Surgical resection of the conjunctiva

Thanks!

DONE?

### Why is CCh Refractory to Conventional Dry Eye Treatments?

- **Fornix Obliteration by CCh**
- Cannot hold patient's own tears
- Seldom benefit from artificial tears
- Easy to generate "overflow"
- Re-tastasis™ is not helpful



### Conclusion

- CCh is an overlooked cause of dry eye.
- CCh dry eye differs from ATD dry eye in diurnal variation, symptoms changed by gazes and blinking.
- Symptomatic CCh is due to (1) interference of tear meniscus, (2) punctal drainage and (3) interference of tear flow from the fornix to the meniscus.
- Surgical treatment should be directed to deepening the fornix with AMT.

### Key Surgical Steps

Conjunctivochalasis is a disease of the fornix.

- Key Characteristics of CCh:**
  - Observed and diagnosed by the fornix and its pocket
- Treatment Strategy:**
  - Deepen the fornix with one layer of Amniograft®
- Key Characteristics of CCh:**
  - Observed and diagnosed by the fornix and its pocket
- Treatment Strategy:**
  - Fornix excision to deepen the tear meniscus and the fornix