Delayed diagnosis of cataract presenting as a lens-induced glaucoma

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Abstract

Statement of the problem: Cataract is a form of reversible blindness in the world. If left untreated however, it can lead to complications such as lens induced glaucoma and permanent visual loss. The purpose of this report is to discuss the intraoperative findings and postoperative complication management in this patient.

Methodology: This is a retrospective case report.

Findings: A 70-year old Malay man presented with right eye pain and redness. On examination, his visual acuity (VA) of the RE was hand movement (HM) and LE was 6/12 ph with near vision of N5. The right pupil was mid dilated, sluggish with presence of relative afferent pupillary defect. IOP on the RE was 54mmHg and LE was 16mmHg. RE had circumciliary injection of conjunctiva with central corneal haziness. The anterior chamber was deep with the presence of 3+ cells with whitish lens material pupillary axis. There was a white cataract with the nucleus appearing to have sunken inferiorly in the surrounding cortex with phacodonesis. Phacolytic and lens particle glaucoma are open angle lens induced glaucoma. Although it is important to distinguish between them, the management remains largely similar. Acute symptomatic relief includes topical and systemic medication for immediate IOP control and pain relief. Definitive management remains the extracapsular method of extraction.

Conclusion and significance: This case report highlights the importance of patient awareness and early recognition, as these are essential in preventing a late presentation of a mature cataract and its potential complications.

Image



Image 1. Right eye lens induced glaucoma with an injected conjunctiva, hazy cornea and mature cataract.

Recent Publications

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2. Laurenti, K. and Salim, S. (2016). Lens-induced Glaucoma: Diagnosis and Management. American Academy of Ophthalmology,EyeNet. https://www.aao.org/eyenet/article/lens-induced-glaucoma-diagnosis-management.
3. Aref, A.A., Luna, G., Tripathy, K. et al (2020). Lens Induced Glaucomas, American Academy of Ophthalmology. EyeWiki. https://eyewiki.aao.org/Lens_Induced_Glaucomas.
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Biography

Shankari Sothirachagan received her medical degree from the University of Southampton, UK in 2010. She did her foundation training in the Kent, Surrey and Sussex (KSS) deanery in the UK. She received a Masters in Investigative Ophthalmology and Vision Sciences from the University of Manchester, UK in 2014. She is a trainee lecturer at University Putra Malaysia, and is currently undergoing her 4th year residency in Ophthalmology Masters in Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.

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