

Images in medicine

Coats disease

Samar Younes^{1,&}, Hicham Tahri¹

¹Ophthalmology Department, CHU Hassan II, Fez, Morocco

[&]Corresponding author: Samar Younes, Ophthalmology Department, CHU Hassan II, Fez, Morocco

Key words: Coats, aneurysms, laser photocoagulation

Received: 21/02/2015 - Accepted: 01/03/2015 - Published: 06/03/2015

Pan African Medical Journal. 2015; 20:205 doi:10.11604/pamj.2015.20.205.6390

This article is available online at: <http://www.panafrican-med-journal.com/content/article/20/205/full/>

© Samar Younes et al. The Pan African Medical Journal - ISSN 1937-8688. This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0>), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Image in medicine

Coats' disease is an idiopathic ophthalmic condition caused by a defect in the development of retinal vasculature, characterized by retinal telangiectasis, haemorrhages, intraretinal and subretinal exudation. There are two pathological processes, which are evident in Coats' disease. The first consists of a breakdown of the blood-retinal barrier at the endothelial level, which causes plasma leakage into the vessel wall and thickening of parts of the vessel wall, becoming necrotic and disorganized. The second concerns the presence of abnormal pericytes and endothelial cells in retinal blood vessels, which subsequently degenerate, causing abnormal retinal vasculature and formation of aneurysms, as well as closure of vessels, leading to ischaemia. Here are several treatment modalities, especially laser photocoagulation and cryotherapy for mild to

moderate stages of the disease as well as vitrectomy for advanced stages. Today, anti-VEGF agents are used as adjuvant therapy to other treatment options.

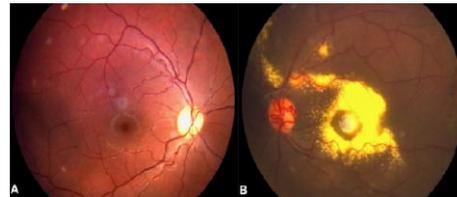


Figure 1: colour fundus photo of a 21-year-old male patient presenting with Coats' disease. In the figure, exudates and telangiectasis are present as well as dilation of retinal vessels, confirming Coats' disease. Visual loss related to marked submacular lipid exudation and fibrosis