

# Cataract Postops Gone Bad!

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## Disclo\$ure

- Speakers Bureau for Aerie, Bausch & Lomb, Glaukos, Ivantis, Reichert



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### When surgery goes well, postop care is easy! But...

- Surgery doesn't always go well and even when it does, some patients still develop postoperative problems
- Practice to your level of competence and comfort
- Don't hesitate to call surgeon for help
- Always tell patient "If you have any problems, like increasing pain or loss of vision, call us right away."



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## Postop Care of Cataract Patients



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## Post-op Vision Rule # 1

Always be able to account for the patient's VA!



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## Causes of Poor VA After Surgery

- Refraction
- Media Opacity
- Retinal Damage
  - Pre-existing
  - Acquired post op
- Optic Nerve damage
  - Pre-existing
  - Acquired post op
- Amblyopia-
  - Pre-existing



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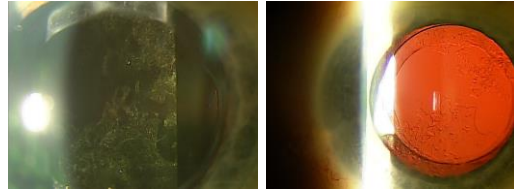
## Posterior Capsule Opacification (PCO)

- ▶ Look AT and THROUGH Posterior Capsule
  - Gauge view of fundus
- ▶ Use retro illumination
- ▶ Test Contrast Sensitivity c/s glare
  - Also valuable for evaluating cataracts
- ▶ Vector Vision
- ▶ BAT
- ▶ M&S Screen



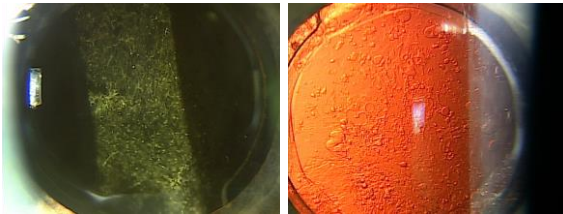
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## Posterior Capsule Opacity

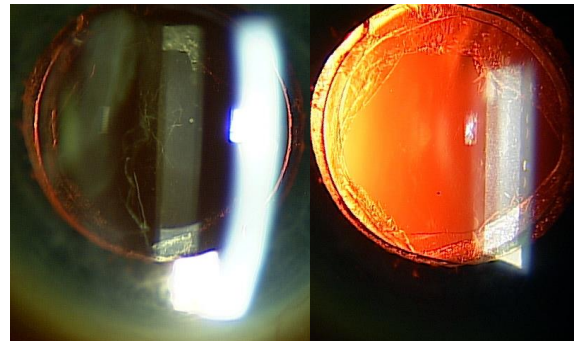


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## Posterior Capsule Opacification



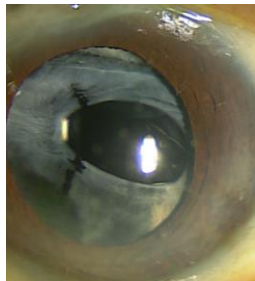
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## Capsular Phimosis

- AKA Anterior Capsule Contraction Syndrome<sup>1</sup>
- Contraction and fibrosis of the AC by metaplastic lens epithelial cells
- Risk factors
  - Small capsulorhexis
  - PXE, uveitis, etc
- Treatment
  - YAG Ant Capsulotomies
  - More effective if done sooner



1.Davison, J. A. Capsule contraction syndrome. J. Cataract Refract. Surg. 19, 582-9 (1993)

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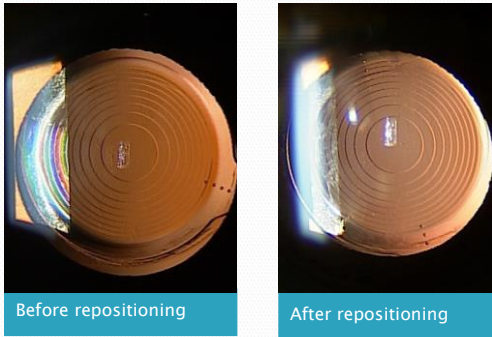
## Residual Refractive Error

- Deferral of Toric IOL-residual astigmatism
- Inaccurate IOL power calculation
  - Inability to get good pre-op measurements
- Corneal edema/distortion
- Options for surgical correction
  - IOL exchange
  - Limbal Relaxing incision (LRI)
  - LASIK/PRK



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## Toric IOL Off axis



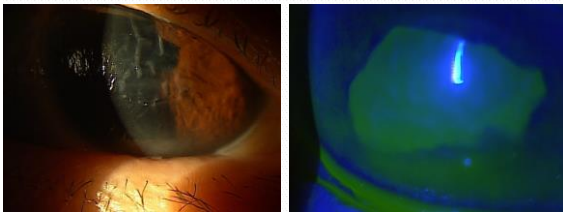
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## Causes of Postop Pain

- ▶ Days 0–2
  - Betadine wash during surgery
  - Corneal abrasion
    - Lid speculum
  - Punctate keratitis
  - Very high IOP
- ▶ Days 2–4
  - Cornea usually healed
  - Endophthalmitis concern
    - Deep pain or FBS?
    - Loss of vision?

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## Corneal Abrasion



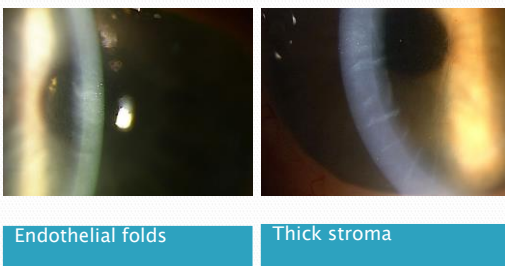
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## Corneal Edema

- ▶ Normal vs. abnormal levels
  - Epithelial v. stromal?
- ▶ Possible causes
  - Hard nucleus
  - Extended surgery time, intra-operative complications
  - Corneal guttata
  - Elevated IOP

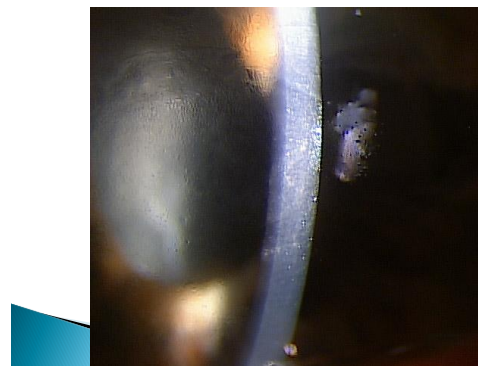
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## Stromal Edema



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## Microcystic Epithelial Edema (MCE)



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## Corneal Edema Management

- ▶ Management
  - Dependent on cause
  - Increase steroid dosage
  - Tincture of time
  - Possible surgery later
  - If caused by elevated IOP in early postop period
    - Burp the wound



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## Elevated IOP–Possible Causes

- ▶ Early causes
  - Retained viscoelastic material
  - Inflammation
    - With/without retained lens material
  - Pre-existing glaucoma
- ▶ Late causes
  - Steroid response
  - Inflammation
    - With/without retained lens material



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## Elevated IOP Management

- Mild elevation–topical meds
- Severe elevation– Wound Burping



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## Burping the Wound

- ▶ Get consent
- ▶ Use Fluorescein
- ▶ Use sterile instruments
  - Punctal dilator
  - spactula
- ▶ Topical Ab
- ▶ Burp the PORT incision!!
  - NOT the primary temporal incision!
- ▶ Start slowly, CHECK IOP frequently!
- ▶ WATCH AC DEPTH
- ▶ If the AC is FLAT, you've gone too far!
- ▶ If the cornea is CONCAVE, you've gone too far!



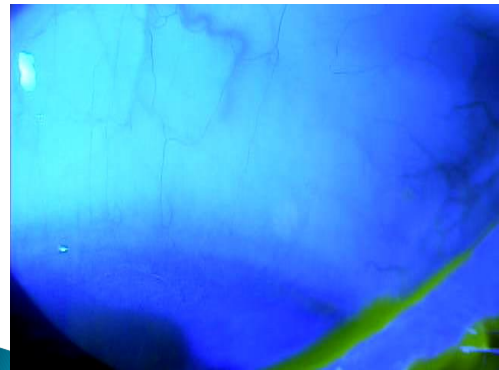
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## Not Appropriate for Burping

- ▶ Needle/syringe
- ▶ Toothpick
- ▶ Swizzle stick
- ▶ Chop stick
- ▶ Plastic utensils
- ▶ Spork
- ▶ pencil



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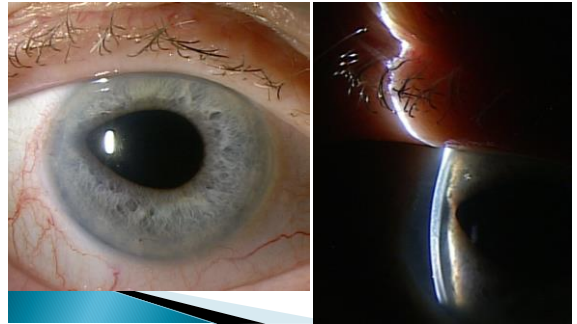
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What happens when a patient burps his/her own wound?



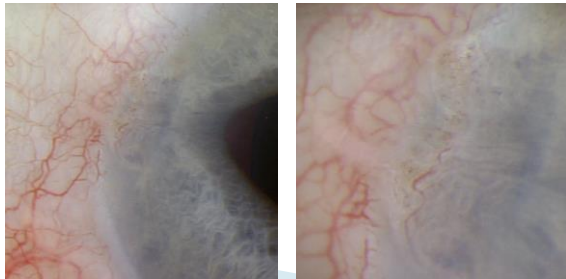
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Peaked Pupil



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Peaked Pupil



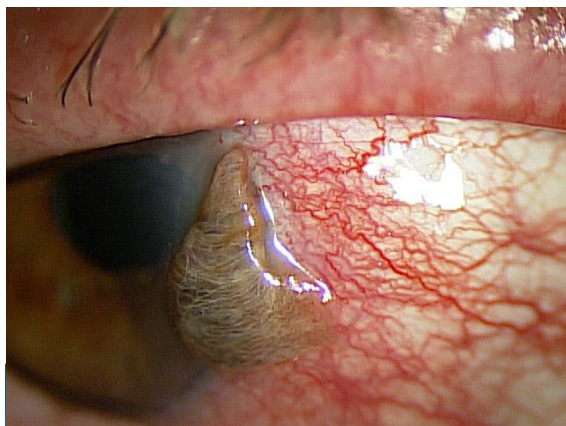
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Lionel

- ▶ Returns from vacation
- ▶ Fell and struck LE 6 days ago
- ▶ No pain
- ▶ Only slight reduction in VA

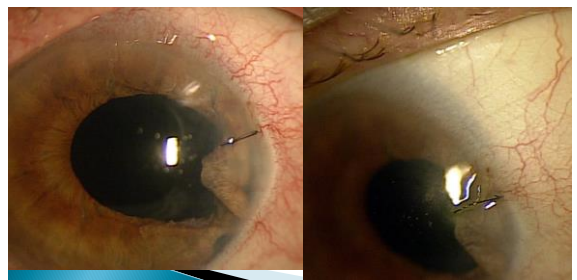


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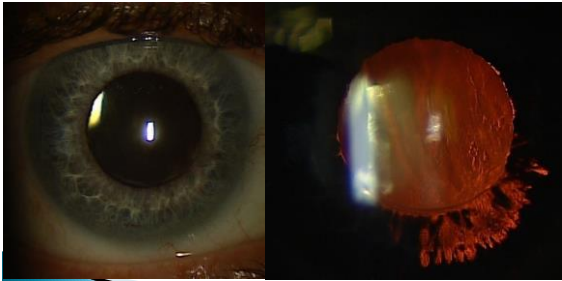
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Post repair-Exposed suture



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### IOL haptic causing TID



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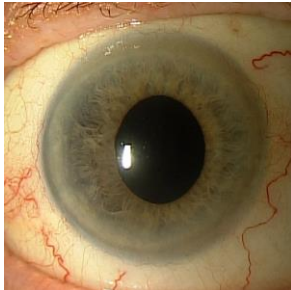
### Waldo

- ▶ 73yo M monitored as pseudophakic glaucoma suspect
  - S/P PPV OU for retinal detachment
- ▶ Calls 9:00PM C/O sudden painless LOV OD
  - Cannot read but can count his fingers
- ▶ What to do?
  - Meet me at the office in 20 minutes
  - See me tomorrow AM
- ▶ Differential diagnosis?
  - Retinal detachment?
  - Vitreous hem?
  - CRVO?
  - CRAO?

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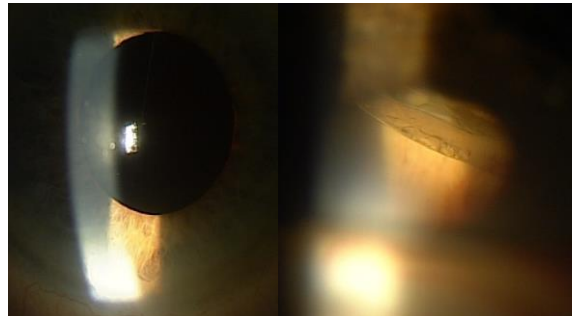
### Waldo

- ▶ VA
  - R CF L 20/70
- ▶ CVF FTHM OD
  - FTFC OS
- ▶ Clues:
- ▶ Negative APD OU
- ▶ Refraction
  - OD + 10.75+0.75x 103
  - 20/30



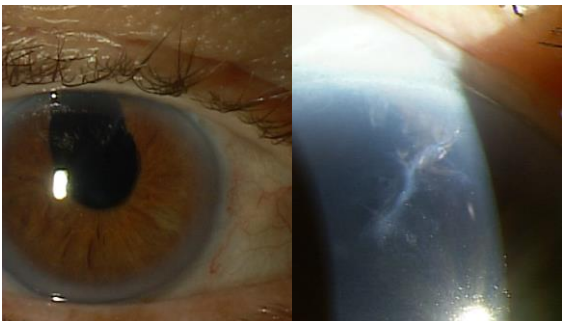
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### Where's Waldo's IOL?



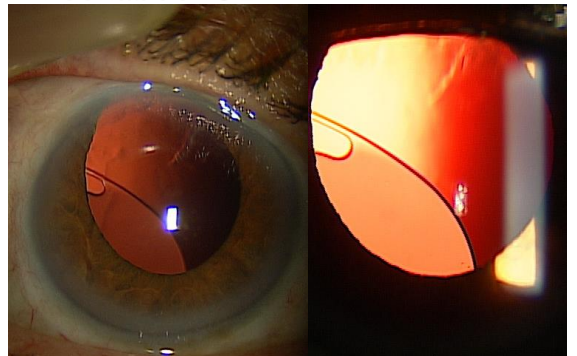
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### Randy Subluxed IOL after old penetrating injury



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### Peekaboo IOL



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## Torn Posterior Capsule

- ▶ Causes
  - S-t happens
  - PXE-loose, fragile zonules
- ▶ Reposition in bag
  - With small tear



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## IOL Repositioning Options

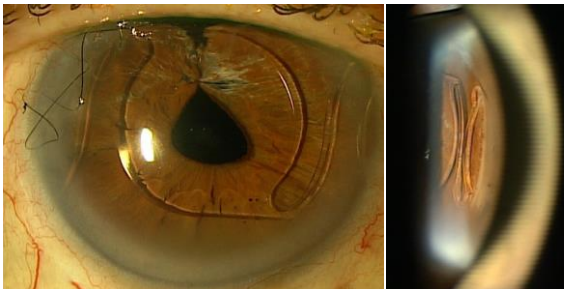
- ▶ Anterior Chamber IOL
- ▶ Iris sutured IOL
- ▶ Posterior sulcus
- ▶ Scleral sutured posterior chamber IOL
- ▶ Yamane technique
  - Intrasclear sutureless posterior chamber IOL<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup>. Yamane S, Sato S, Maruyama-Inoue M, Kadosono K. Flanged Intrasclear Intraocular Lens Fixation with Double-Needle Technique. Ophthalmology. 2017 Aug;124(8):1136-1142.

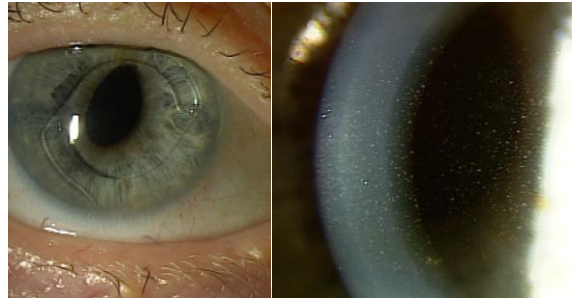
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## AC IOL with iris suture repair



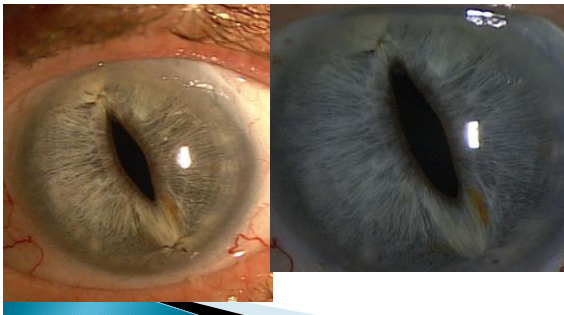
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## AC IOL



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## Iris-sutured IOL post-op



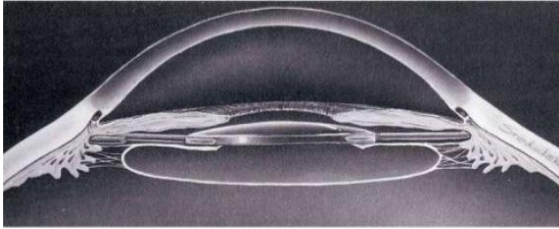
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## Ted Eidon Photo



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### Sulcus Fixated IOL



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### Shin Yamane, MD, PhD

- Department of Ophthalmology & Micro-technology Yokohama City University, Medical School, Yokohama, Japan



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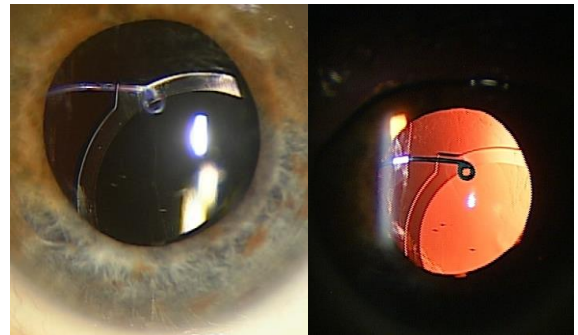
### Yamane Technique<sup>1</sup>

- Sutureless IOL fixation
- Haptics buried within sclera
- Requires specific IOL
  - C2 Lucia 602 Lens (Zeiss)
  - polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF) haptics
- Thread haptics inside needle in AC
- Pull needle with haptics into sclera
- Cauterize haptic tip
- Bury haptic in sclera

1. Yamane S, Sato S, Maruyama-Inoue M, Kadosono K. Flanged Intrascleral Intraocular Lens Fixation with Double-Needle Technique. Ophthalmology. 2017 Aug;124(8):1136-1142.

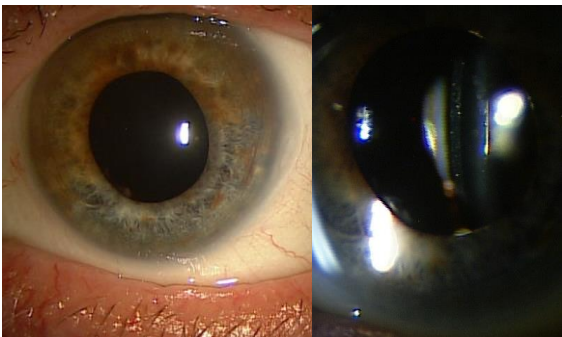
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### Subluxed IOL Repair



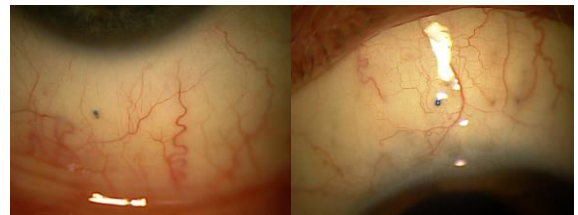
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### Post Repair 8/06/2019



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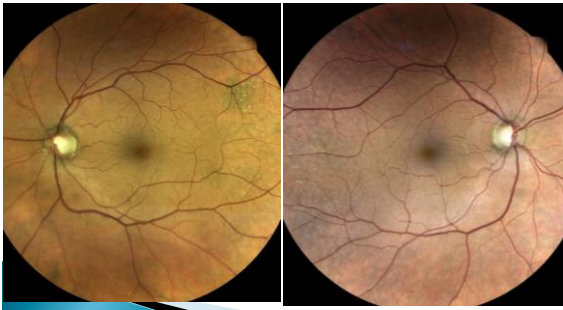
### Yamane Technique: scleral-fixated haptics



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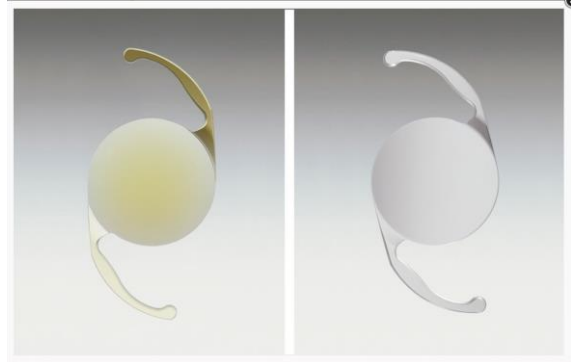


### What's wrong with these pictures?



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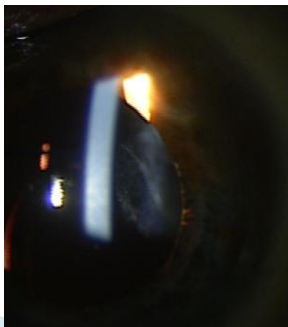
### IOL Options



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### Vitreous Prolapse

- Accompanies torn posterior capsule and/or broken zonules
- Check for
  - vitreous to wound
  - Vitreous/corneal touch
- Treatment
  - Usually just monitor
  - (+/-) Anterior vitrectomy



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### Retained Lens Material

- ▶ Where is it?
  - Ant chamber
  - Vitreous
- ▶ What is it?
  - Cortex or nucleus?
  - Cortex more easily resorbed
- ▶ Complications
  - Inflammation
  - Increased IOP
  - Corneal endothelium damage with nucleus in AC

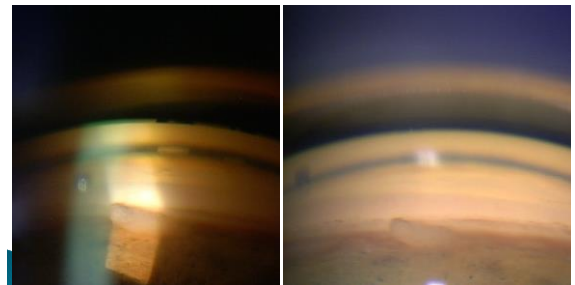
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### Ranae



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### Ranae



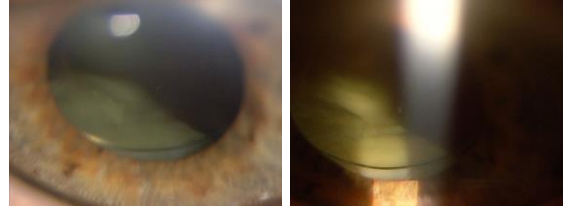
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## Marie

- ▶ 1 day post phaco/IOL
  - VA sc 20/50
  - 2+ Pek 3+ AC cells
  - IOP 42
  - Burped wound
- ▶ Day 2
  - VA 20/40- IOP 50; AC 1+ cells
  - Burped wound IOP 13
  - Add Travatan, Simbrinza
- ▶ Day 5
  - VA 20/30 IOP 40
  - Burped wound
  - DFE: reveals retained lens cortex
  - Surgical consult: removed retained cortex

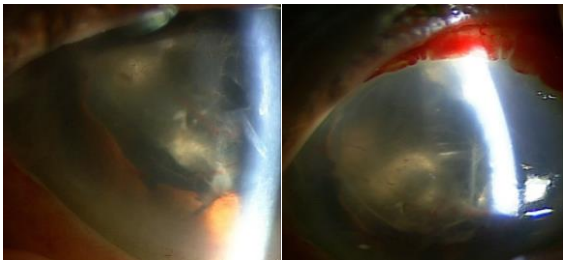
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## Fluffy Cortex posterior to IOL



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## Retained Lens Material (Dora)



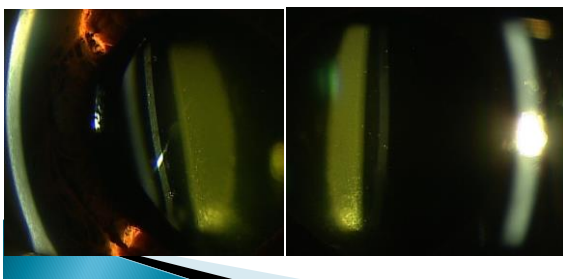
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## RLM-Treatment Options

- ▶ Consult surgeon
  - Send photos
- ▶ Manage inflammation
  - Durezol QID
- ▶ Manage IOP
  - Medicate as necessary
  - PGA not the first choice
- ▶ Surgical removal if necessary
  - Based on lens material, complications

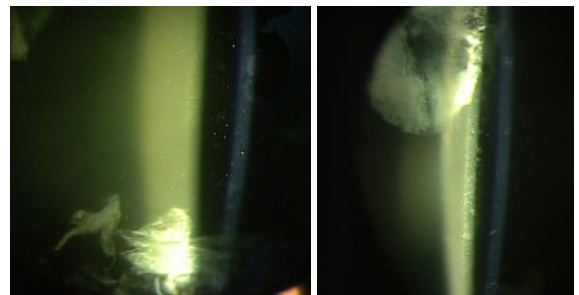
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## What's wrong with this IOL?



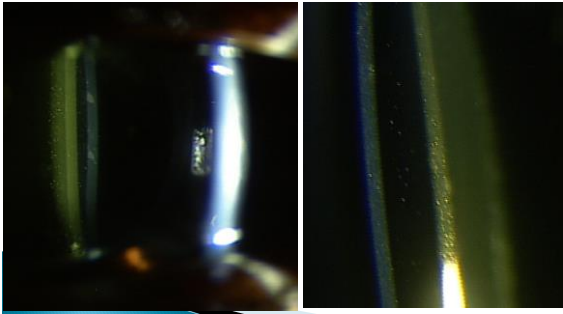
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## Alia OD



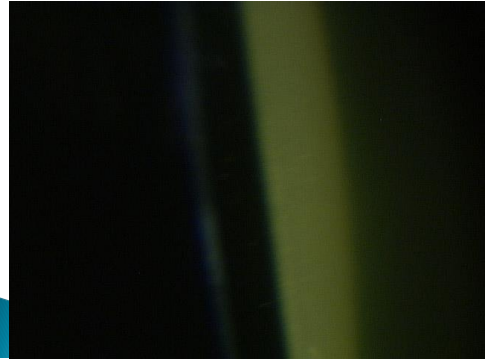
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Alia OS



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Alia OS



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Alia Post YAG OU



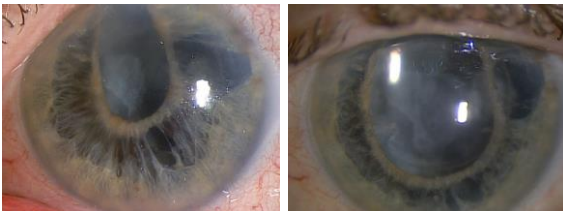
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Larry

- ▶ Phaco/IOL 4/27/17
  - Post cap tear during surgery
  - Iris damage
  - Monitored by MD until 5/5/17
  - Referred to retinal specialist
- ▶ Sees me 5/15/17
  - VA 20/400 IOP 53
  - Azopt, Combigan, Diamox administered in-office
  - Referred for surgical repair

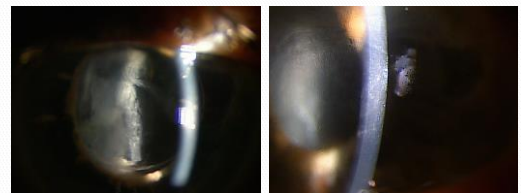
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Larry



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Larry

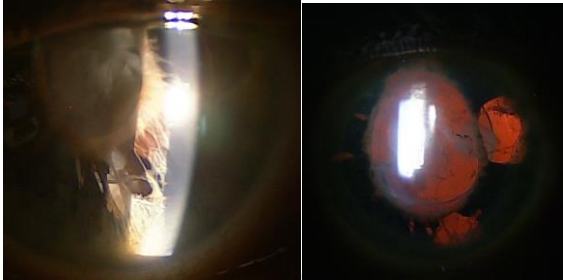


Retained lens material

MCE due to high IOP

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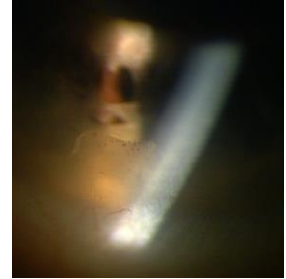
## Iris Trauma



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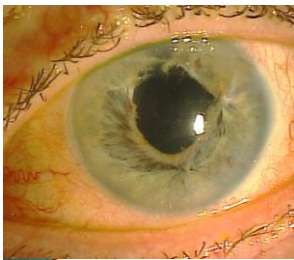
## Surgical Repair

- ▶ Vitreoretinal surgeon
  - Pars plana vitrectomy
  - Removal of retained lens material in vitreous and posterior capsule
- ▶ Anterior segment surgeon
- ▶ Positioned IOL
- ▶ Removed lens material in AC
- ▶ Sutured iris



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## Larry Post Repair



- ▶ VA 20/20
- ▶ Persistently elevated IOP
- ▶ Managed with topical meds
- ▶ Quiet eye

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## Iris Damage

- ▶ Mild, moderate or severe
  - Mild—common, inconsequential
  - Moderate—probably no treatment necessary
  - Severe—Mgt dependent on symptoms
- ▶ Options for management
  - Nothing
  - Reposition IOL if necessary
  - Iris suture if severe
  - Artificial iris?

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## Intraoperative Floppy Iris Syndrome (IFIS)

- ▶ Small pupil syndrome initially described by Chang and Campbell in 2005
- ▶ Triad of
  - floppiness or billowing of the iris,
  - progressive intraoperative miosis and
  - iris prolapse through the surgical wounds
- ▶ Occurs in about 2% of cataract surgeries in the US
- ▶ Can occur in men OR WOMEN
- ▶ HTN is an independent risk factor

1. Enright J et al Curr Opin Ophthalmol 2017; 28:29-34  
2. Chang DF, Campbell JR. J Cat Ref Surg 2005; 31:664-673.

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## Complications

- ▶ Short-term complications
  - Increased rates of posterior capsule rupture, vitreous loss, retained nuclear fragments, postoperative intraocular pressure spikes, iridodialysis, hyphema, and corneal endothelial loss
- ▶ Long-term consequences
  - permanent pupil deformity, and vision loss secondary to endophthalmitis, macular edema, or retinal detachment.

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## Alpha-1 antagonists

- ▶ tamsulosin (Flomax and Jalyn),
- ▶ silodosin (Rapaflo),
- ▶ alfuzosin (Uroxatral),
- ▶ doxazosin (Cardura)
- ▶ terazosin (Hytrin)
- ▶ prazosin (Minipress)
- ▶ Notably, gender, race, and diabetes are not independent risk factors for IFIS.

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## Agents with possible association

- ▶ Neuromodulators
  - benzodiazepines,
  - duloxetine (Cymbalta, a serotonin–norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor [SNRI])
  - donepezil (Aricept, acetylcholinesterase inhibitor)
- ▶ Other agents
  - finasteride (Propecia, 5 $\alpha$ -reductase inhibitor)
  - beta blockers labetalol and carvedilol

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## IFIS in Women

- ▶ Tamsulosin used for chronic urinary retention and off-label to facilitate passage of urinary stones in both men and women
- ▶ IFIS has been associated with antipsychotic medications and hypertension, which may affect either gender.

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## IFIS Pre-operative Management

- ▶ Male and female patients should be asked about current or prior use of  $\alpha$ 1-antagonists, particularly tamsulosin (Flomax, Jalyn), but also alfuzosin (Uroxatral), doxazosin (Cardura), terazosin (Hytrin), and prazosin (Minipress)
- ▶ Antipsychotics with  $\alpha$ 1-antagonist activity, including chlorpromazine (Thorazine), zuclopenthixol (Clopixol), and quetiapine (Seroquel)
- ▶ **Discontinuing tamsulosin does not reduce the risk of IFIS!**  
No need to discontinue it

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## Pre-operative Management

- ▶ Poor preoperative dilation is associated with IFIS and should be noted,
  - although IFIS can occur in the setting of normal preoperative dilation.
- ▶ Atropine 1% TID x 2 days prior to surgery
  - *May* help decrease intra-operative miosis

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## Intra-operative Management

- ▶ Intracameral epinephrine and phenylephrine reduce iris floppiness and promote pupillary dilation
- ▶ Ophthalmic viscosurgical devices
  - Healon, Viscoat, etc
- ▶ Iris retractors and pupil expanders

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## Post-operative Management

- ▶ Depends on postop complications
- ▶ Combination agents for increased IOP
  - Acetazolamide short-term if necessary
  - Avoid prostaglandins if possible
- ▶ Avoid burping wound!
- ▶ Increase steroid for inflammation
- ▶ Shield while sleeping
- ▶ Avoid pressing on eye



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## Endophthalmitis Stats<sup>1</sup>

- ▶ Systematic English literature review 1963–2003
- ▶ Overall incidence 0.128%
- ▶ Increasing since 2000
  - 1970's: 0.327%
  - 1980's: 0.158%
  - 1990's: 0.087%
  - 2000–2003: 0.265%
- ▶ Incision type has impact
  - clear corneal cataract extraction (1992– 2003) 0.189%
  - scleral incision 0.074% (relative risk, 2.55 [95% confidence interval, 1.75–3.71])
  - Limbal incision: 0.062% (relative risk, 3.06 [95% confidence interval, 2.48–3.76]) for limbal incision.

1.Mehran T, Behrens A, Newcomb R Arch Ophthalmol. 2005;123:613–620



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## Bascom Palmer Experience 2000–2004

- ▶ Incidence:0.04% (7/15,920) for cataract surgeries of all methods,
- ▶ Clear cornea 0.05% (6/11,462)
- ▶ cataract surgery by methods other than clear cornea 0.02% (1/4,458)
  - ( $P = .681$ , Fisher's exact test).
- ▶ Potential risk factors for endophthalmitis may include intraoperative complications, relative immune compromise, application of lidocaine 2% gel before povidone-iodine preparation, and inferior incision location

AJO 2005 139:6, 983–987



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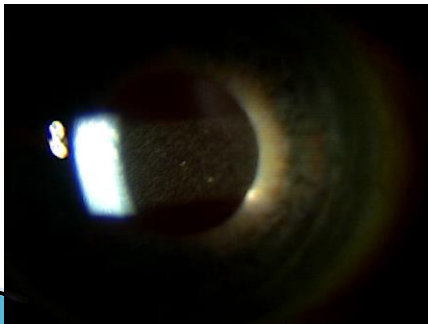
## Endophthalmitis

- ▶ Timing
  - Day 2–4 post op
  - Later onset possible
- ▶ Signs/Symptoms
  - Decreased VA
  - Pain
  - Redness
  - Increasing symptoms post surgery
  - Increasing/severe AC cells/flare
  - Vitreous cells
    - Examination of vitreous



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## AC 4+ Cells 2+ Flare



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## Management

- ▶ Immediate call to phaco surgeon and referral to retinal specialist
- ▶ Likely vitreous tap with culture
- ▶ Intravitreal injection antibiotics
- ▶ Possible vitrectomy with AB's



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## What have we learned?

- ▶ Myriad of possible postop. complications
  - Mild, moderate, severe
- ▶ We can handle many of them
- ▶ Careful observation/frequent FU is critical with potentially serious findings
- ▶ Good communication is key
  - With patients
  - With surgeons
- ▶ Always tell patient "If you have any problems, like increasing pain or loss of vision, call us right away."
- ▶ BE AVAILABLE TO OUR PATIENTS 24/7