



SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS, HIV/AIDS

## AN INTERESTING CASE OF OCULAR SYPHILIS PRESENTING AS UNILATERAL CHORIORETINITIS.

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**Background:** Syphilis is a multisystemic infection caused by *Treponema pallidum*. Ocular manifestations of Syphilis have a myriad of presentations and severity. Here by reporting Unilateral Chorioretinitis in a Syphilitic patient.

**Observation:** A 31yr old male patient was referred from Institute of Ophthalmology as a case of chorioretinitis with VDRL positive in 1 dilution for further management. Patient had diminished vision & redness of Rt eye - 2months duration, H/o premarital exposure present 16yrs back & extramarital contact 3yrs back. No other positive history. On Examination: Ocular- Rt eye: conjunctival congestion + ARP+. Ophthalmoscopy- Yellowish white retinal lesions, macular edema and Hyperaemia. No genital lesion, scars or cutaneous lesion. His spouse & children - clinically and serologically negative for syphilis. Investigations: VDRL: Reactive in 1 dilution, TPHA:Positive. HIV test: Negative, CSF: VDRL -Negative and TPHA- Negative, Complete hemogram, LFT, RFT, Chest X-ray, ECG were within normal limits. Pt advised Inj procaine penicillin 1.2MU IM daily x 21days .

**Key message:** Ocular Syphilis can occur at any stage of Syphilis and may be the only presenting sign. Syphilis serology was positive confirming the disease. There were no other cutaneous, genital and systemic signs of syphilis. The patient showed improvement in vision during subsequent follow up. This case highlights the importance of syphilis with ocular manifestation, There by proving that diagnosis of syphilis based on ocular finding is clinically challenging.

