

Late capsular blockage syndrome

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Introduction

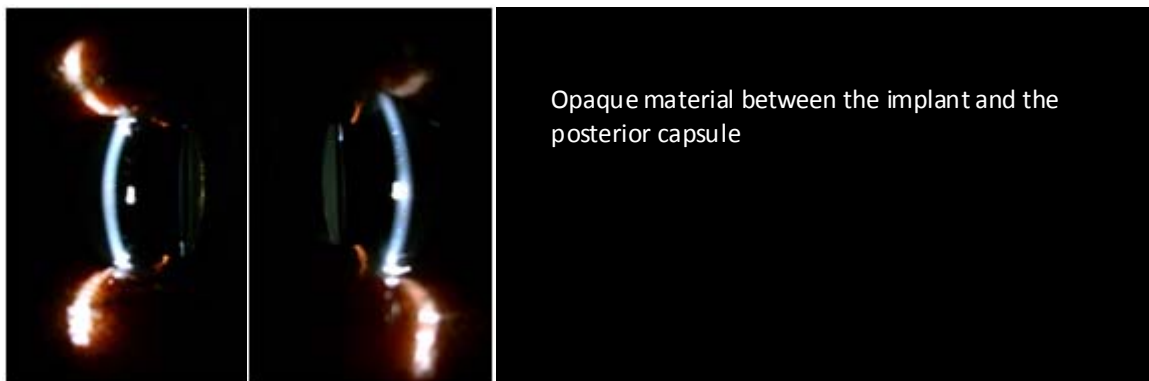
Late capsular blockage is a rare (0.3%) complication seen in phacoemulsification with posterior chamber intraocular lens (PC-IOL) implants where a continuous curvilinear capsulorhexis is made.

It leads to capsular blockage and accumulation of opaque fluid between the lens implant and the posterior capsule (PC). The result is a reduction of visual acuity (VA) associated with a myopic shift shallowing of anterior chamber depth (ACD) and anterior bowing of iris is also seen frequently.

Case details

A 57 year old male patient had posterior chamber intra ocular lens insertion done bilaterally. The right eye was done 5 years ago, with the left being done 1 year later. He developed progressive reduction of vision over a period of two months, with the right being more severely affected.

Best corrected visual acuity (refracted) was OD 6/12 (-1.00 -1.00 × 80) and OS 6/12 (-1.00 -0.50 × 60). Slit lamp examination was performed, where late capsular blockage (R > L) was diagnosed.

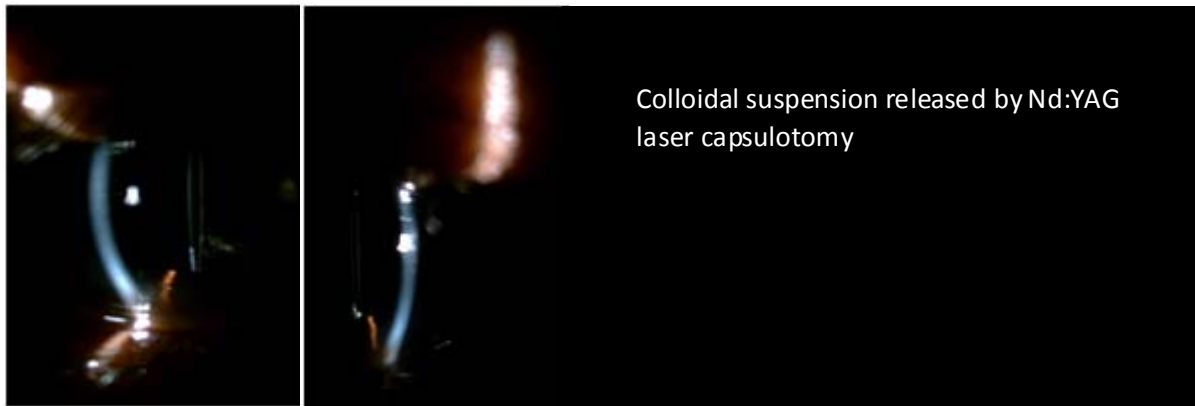


In Anterior segment OCT (ASOCT) was used to aid in the diagnosis, which showed anterior chamber depths of 3.21 mm OD and 3.25 mm OS.



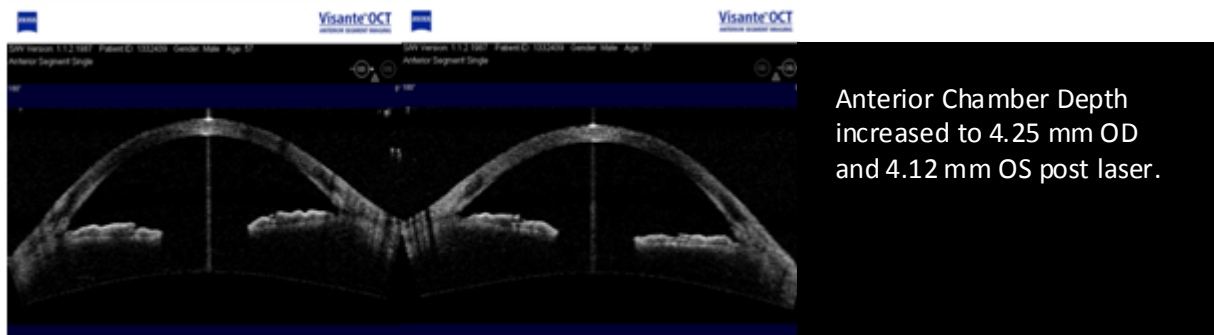
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Laser posterior capsulotomy, with Neodymium Yttrium -Aluminium -Garnet (Nd:YAG) laser, is the usual treatment. This patient underwent bilateral treatment and was on an intensive course of steroids that reduced the inflammation. Postoperative data was collected after 2 weeks.



Post YAG capsulotomy improved BCVA to 6/6 OU, with reversal of myopic shift, refraction showing OD -0.25 -0.25 × 80 and OS -0.25 -0.25 × 90.

Post treatment ACD deepened to 4.25 mm OD and 4.12 mm OS.



Discussion

Late capsular blockage is diagnosed on slit lamp examination aided by AS-OCT. This constitutes one of the many different types of PC opacities. Nd: YAG posterior capsulotomy released the colloidal suspension within the capsular bag posterior to the IOL optic, which lead to the improvement of visual acuity. Post procedure, the myopic shift had reversed and with an increase in ACD shown on AS-OCT. Consider late capsular blockage syndrome as a culprit in late myopic shift following a PC-IOL implantation.

References

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