

SYMPTOMS OF CATARACT

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OPHTHALMOLOGY UNIT 1

62ND BATCH

**CATARACT REFERS TO THE DEVELOPMENT
OF ANY OPACITIES IN THE LENS OR ITS
CAPSULE**



EARLIER SYMPTOMS

- FREQUENT CHANGES OF GLASSES**
- BLURRING OF VISION**
- GLARE**
- UNIOCULAR POLYOPIA**



FREQUENT CHANGES OF GLASSES

DUE TO RAPID CHANGE IN THE REFRACTIVE INDEX



GLARE

- INTOLERANCE TO BRIGHT LIGHT**
- DIRECT SUNLIGHT OR HEAD LIGHTS OF AN ONCOMING MOTOR VEHICLE**
- DIFFRACTION OF LIGHT CAUSED BY OPACITIES**



UNIOCULAR POLYOPIA

-DOUBLING OR TREBLING OF OBJECTS

-IRREGULAR REFRACTION BY THE LENS

OWING TO VARIABLE REFRACTIVE INDEX

AS A RESULT OF CATARACTOUS PROCESS



COLOURED HALOES

BREAKING OF WHITE LIGHT INTO COLOURED SPECTRUM DUE TO THE PRESENCE OF WATER DROPLETS IN THE LENS



- **BLACK SPOTS IN FRONT OF EYE**
- **IMAGE BLUR-DISTORTION OF IMAGES & MISTY VISION MAY OCCUR IN EARLY STAGES OF CATARACT**

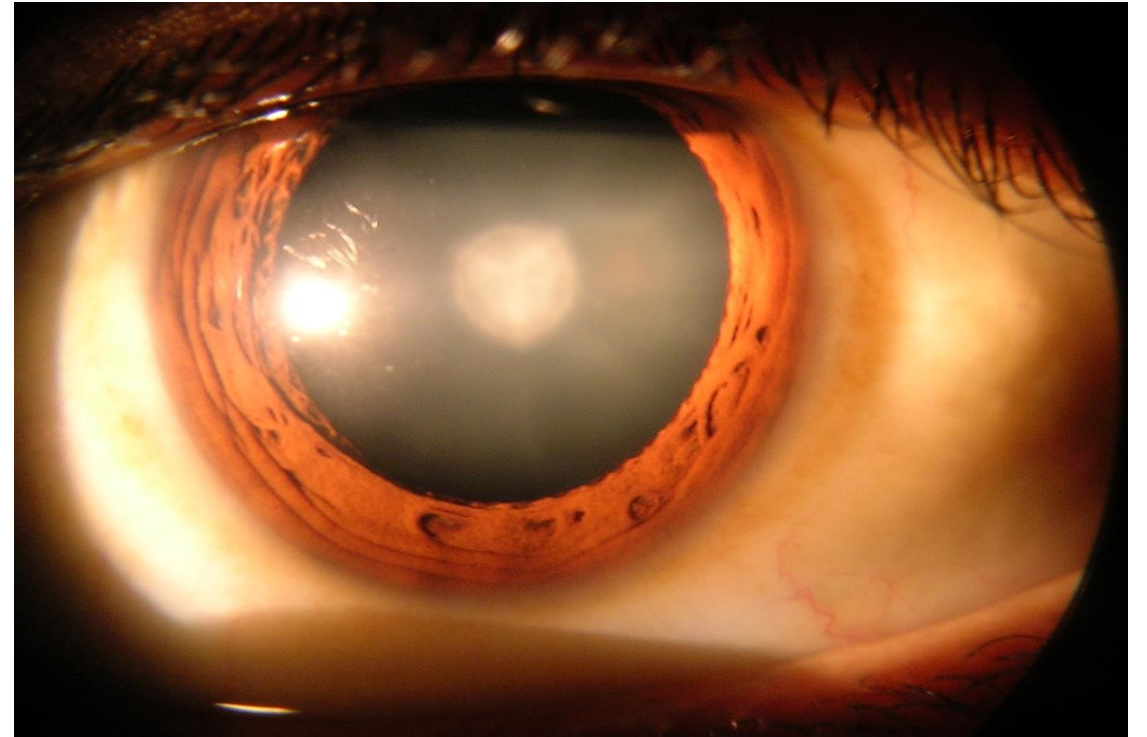


DETERIORATION OF VISION

PAINLESS GRADUALLY PROGRESSIVE IN NATURE

→ PATIENTS WITH CENTRAL OPACITIES

- * EARLY LOSS OF VISION**
- * SEEN BETTER WHEN PUPIL IS
DILATED DUE TO DIMLIGHT
IN THE EVENING**



→ PATIENTS WITH PERIPHERAL OPACITIES

***VISION LOSS DELAYED**

***VISION IMPROVED IN BRIGHT LIGHT WHEN PUPIL IS CONTRACTED**



-->PATIENTS WITH PROMINENT NUCLEAR SCLEROSIS

- *DISTANT VISION DETERIORATES DUE TO PROGRESSIVE INDEX MYOPIA**

- *SUCH PATIENTS MAY BE ABLE TO READ WITHOUT PRESBYOPIC GLASSES**

- *THIS IMPROVEMENT IN NEAR VISION IS REFERRED TO AS
SECOND SIGHT**

AS OPACIFICATION PROGRESSES, VISION STEADILY DIMINISHES, UNTIL ONLY PERCEPTION OF LIGHT REMAINS AND ACCURATE PROJECTION OF LIGHT RAYS REMAINING IN THE STAGE OF MATURE CATARACT.

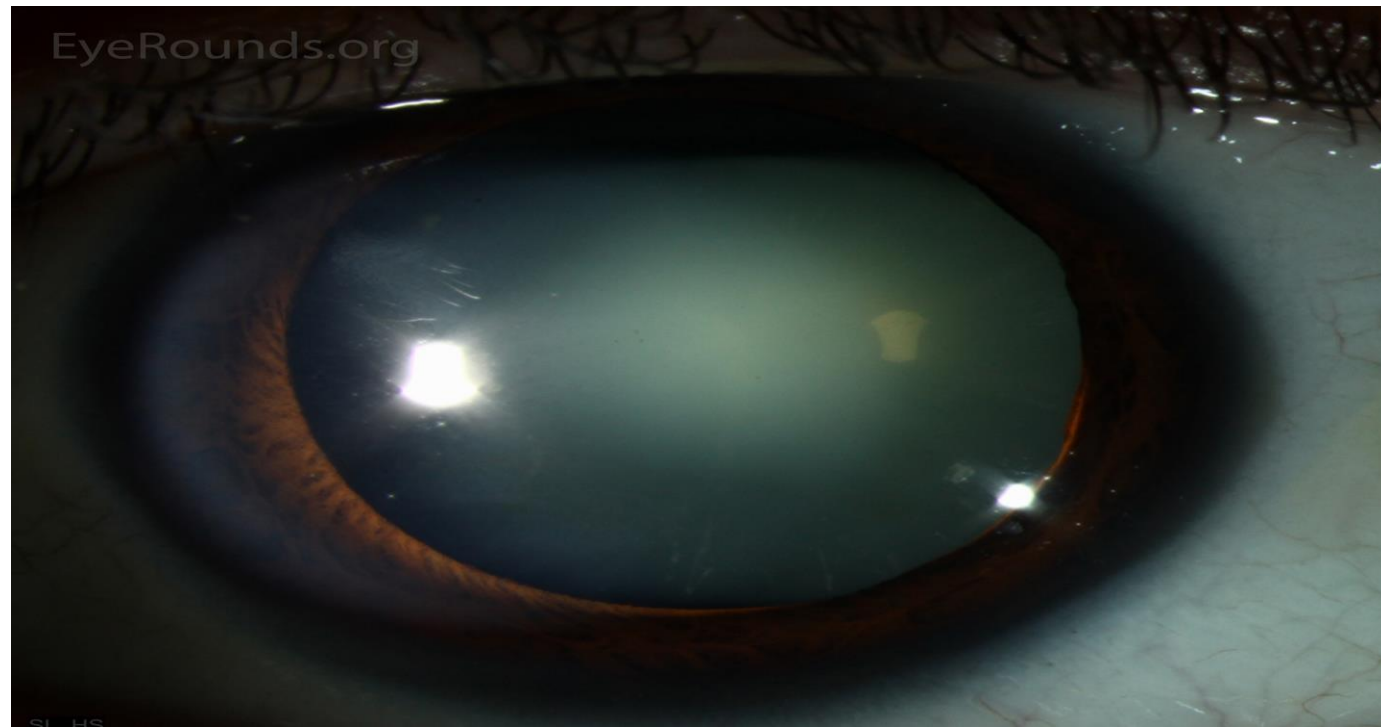


TABLE 18.3 Symptoms of Acquired Cataract

Symptom	Pathogenesis
Frequent change of glasses	Rapid change in refractive index of the lens
Reduced visual acuity usually gradual, painless, progressive	Reduction in transparency of the lens
'Second sight' or myopic shift	Change in refractive index of the nucleus causes index myopia, improving near vision
Loss of ability to see objects in bright sunlight, blinded by light of oncoming headlamps when driving at night	Loss of contrast sensitivity, which is greater at higher spatial frequencies; constriction of pupil cuts off peripheral vision from non-cataractous area

Monocular diplopia or polyopia	Cortical spoke opacities in conjunction with water clefts that form radial wedges containing a fluid of lower refractive index than the surrounding lens
Glare	Increased scattering of light
Coloured halos around light	Irregularity in the refractive index of different parts of the lens
Colour shift (becomes more obvious after surgery)	Blue end of the spectrum is absorbed more by the cataractous lens
Visual field loss	Generalized reduction in sensitivity due to loss of transparency

THANKYOU.....