

BRANCH RETINAL VEIN OCCLUSION WITH COVID-19 INFECTION

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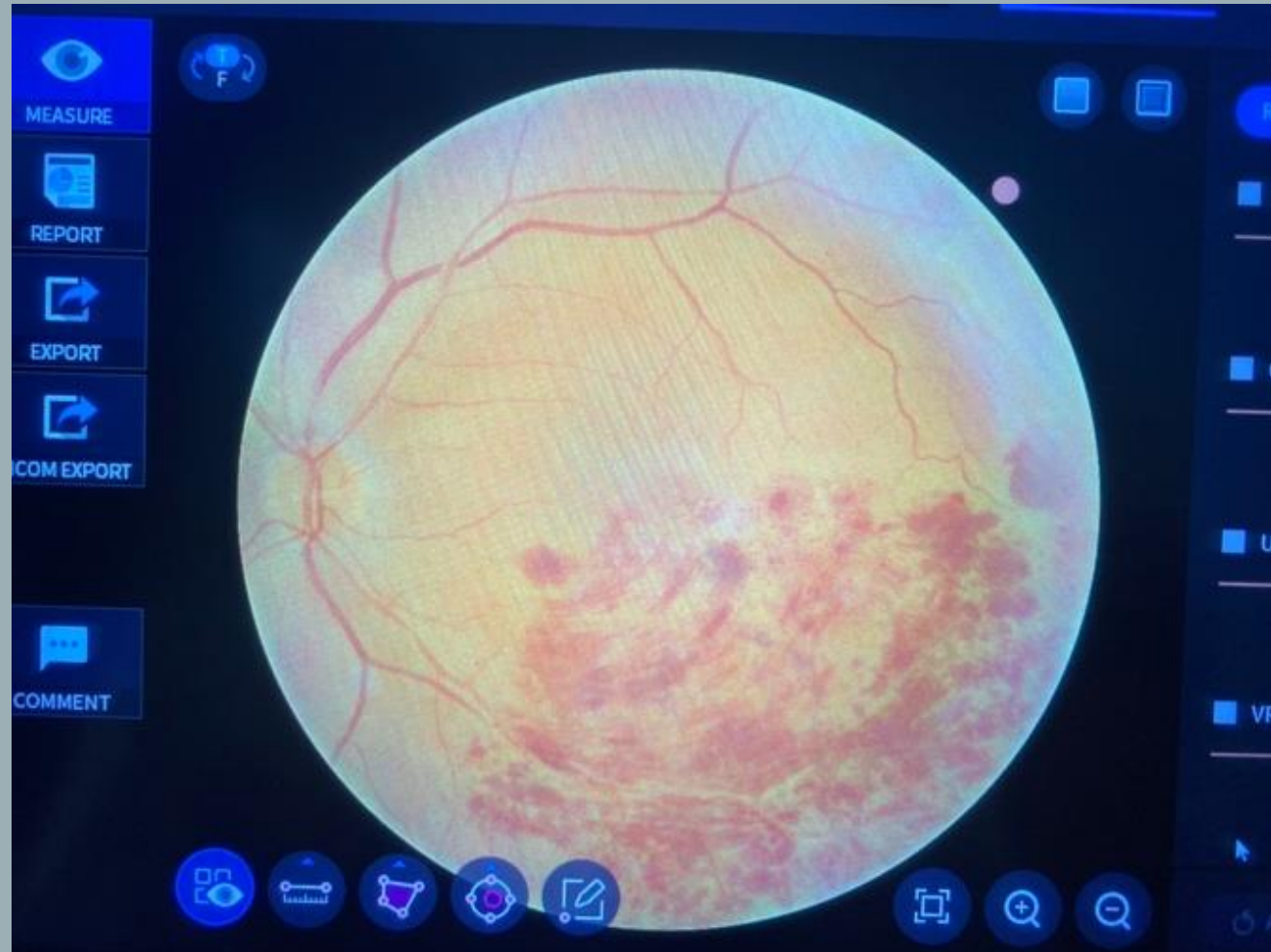
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Purpose:

To report a case of branch retinal vein occlusion (BRVO) in a COVID-19 positive patient.

Clinical Case:

A 47 years old woman with COVID-19 related pneumonia presented to our emergency department complaining of decreased vision in her left eye. Her visual acuity was 10/10 OD and 8/10 OS with no correction. Fundoscopic examination revealed flame-shaped retinal hemorrhages in lower quadrants without optic disc edema. Optical coherence tomography of the macula reveal no intraretinal or subretinal fluid. Fundoscopic findings were typical of BRVO. She denied taking any medication or tobacco use. The patient presented no risk factors other than a hyper-coagulability status which was related to the covid 19 infection.



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Conclusion

Retinal circulation should be considered as a potential site for thromboembolic complications from COVID-19. Ophthalmologists and other healthcare providers should maintain a high index of suspicion for retinal vascular disorders in individuals with COVID-19, particularly those presenting with visual symptoms.

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Conflicts of interest: None