

BERLIN'S EDEMAAFTER BLUNT TRAUMA



Liouta A.¹, Kypraiou S.¹, Derdera E.¹, Chroni M.¹, Sarri E.¹, Christoforou S.¹, Vrionis G.¹, Katri D.¹

¹Department of Ophthalmology, Pammakaristos Hospital of Divive Providence, Athens, Greece

INTRODUCTION

Berlin's edema, also called Commotio retinae is an acute traumatic maculopathy characterized by retinal opacification. Its functional evolution can be variable, going from visual disturbances to temporary visual loss.

The aim of this poster is o present a case of Berlin edema following blunt trauma.

CASE PRESENTATION

A 63-year-old male patient presented at the emergency & TrueColor department, reporting blunt trauma to his right eye due to an accidental bow strike, approximately 12 hours earlier. He had no history of underlying disease or previous ocular surgery. During physical examination, the best corrected visual acuity (BCVA) was 20/20 bilaterally. The intraocular pressure was 15mmHg in the right eye and 14 mmHg in the left eye. The slit lamp biomicroscopy revealed conjunctival laceration temporally, less than 1mm, and the anterior segment evaluation was normal. The fundus examination showed on his right eye an elevated area of retinal whitening in the macular area as seen in Berlin's edema (fig.1) and the left eye was normal. The patient was treated with tab acetazolamide, dexamethasone and Nsaid drops. The fundoscopic finding subsided within a few days.

CLINICAL TESTING

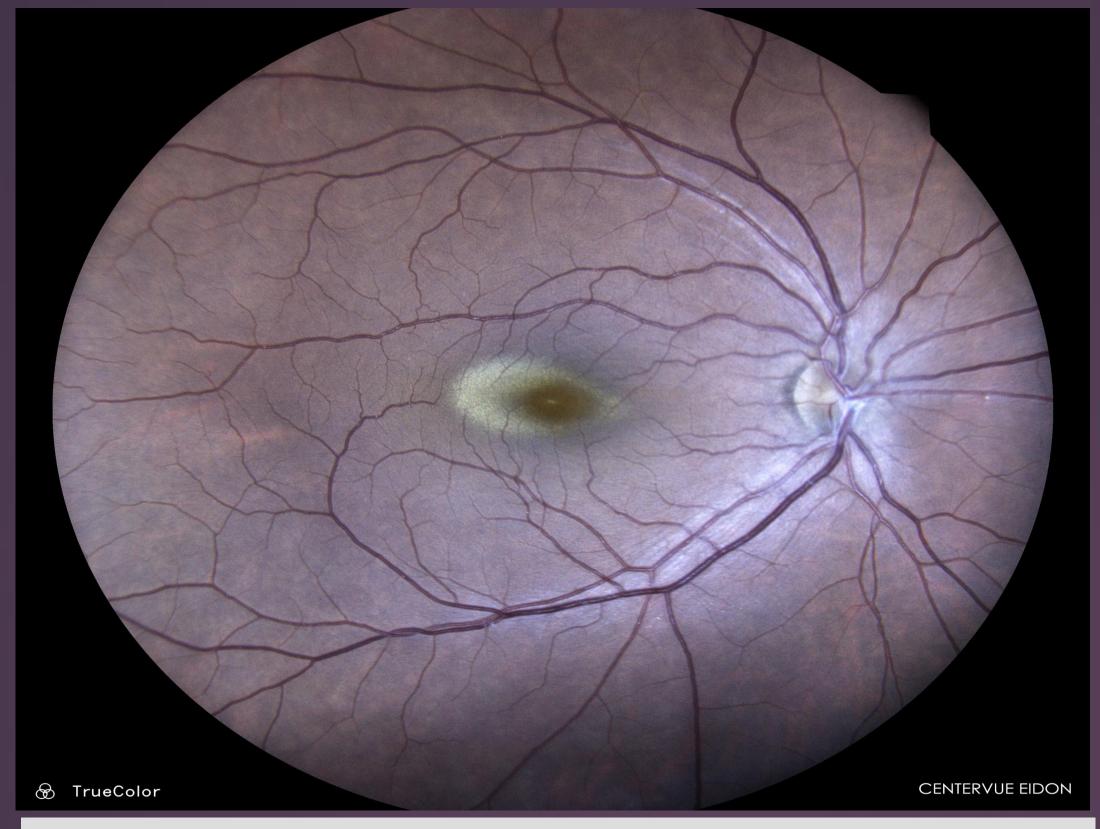


Figure 1: Fundus examination revealed elevated area of retinal whitening in the macular area



Figure 2: After 3 days

DISCUSSION

Berlin's edema is an acute traumatic maculopathy. It was first described by Berlin in 1873. Commotio retinae is characterized by a transient grey-white retinal opacification occurring after blunt eye trauma. The opacification may involve the peripheral retinal areas or may be limited to the macular area. Berlin's edema commonly corresponds to post-traumatic macular edema. [1]. The pathophysiological mechanism is related to a blunt force transmitted to the retina resulting the rapid deceleration of eye tissues. Severe ocular blunt trauma may lead to photoreceptor layer disorganization and partial rupture of the blood-retinal barrier [2]. The visual acuity of these patients (BCVA) can be variable depending on the macular involvement severity. The examination of the eye fundus is essential; it should look for macular discoloration, possible retinal hemorrhages, or pigmentary changes. Associated lesions should also be sought in the anterior segment as well as in the retinal periphery.[3] The prognosis is excellent except in case of complications. Berlin's edema is usually self-limiting and treatment is not necessary. [4]

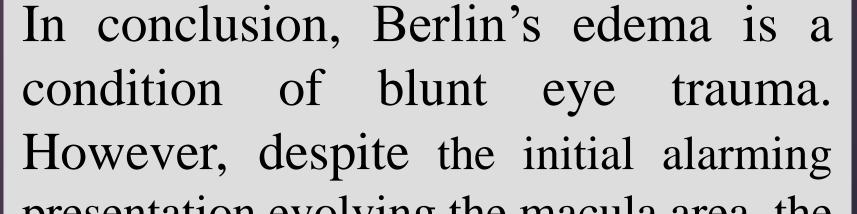
CONCLUSION

INDICATIVE REFERENCES

1. Berlin, R.(1873). Zur sogenannten commotio retinae.

condition of blunt eye trauma. However, despite the initial alarming presentation evolving the macula area, the edema resolved within 3 days without any

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remaining structural or functional

alterations.