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Service (sector)
Retina and Vitreous

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RETINAL PIGMENT EPITHELIUM DETACHMENT AS A NEW FINDING IN THE VITREOMACULAR TRACTION SYNDROME.

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Introduction: The development of optical coherence tomography provided a very useful imaging resource to study macular disorders. The path physiology of vitreomacular traction syndrome was further elucidated using this method; however retinal pigment epithelium detachment associated with this disease was not previously described to the best of our knowledge 1,2,3,4.

Purpose: To present a case of retinal pigment epithelium detachment, documented by optical coherence tomography, in a vitreomacular traction syndrome patient.

Methods: Case report.

Results: 77-year-old white male with history of progressive vision loss in the left eye for the past 18 months. Past medical history was unremarkable. Best-corrected visual acuity was 20/20 in the right eye and counting fingers at 5 feet in the left eye. Amsler test revealed a central scotoma in the left eye. Pupillary reflexes and ocular motility were normal. Anterior segment examination revealed mild cataract in both eyes, intraocular pressure was normal.

Posterior segment examination disclosed a slightly opaque posterior hyaloids partially separated from the retina, with remaining attachments to the optic nerve head, macula and retinal periphery. There was also an elevated tractional macular detachment. Watzke-Allen test was negative. Color fundus photograph, B-scan ultrasonography, fluorescein video-angiography and OCT were consistent with vitreomacular traction syndrome (Fig. 1,2,3). OCT scans showed intraretinal structural disruption and schisis associated with RPE detachment under the area of vitreomacular traction (Fig. 3).

Conclusion: Besides the typical retinal changes related to vitreomacular traction syndrome, these

Patients may present with less common alterations such as schisis or a rare finding, the retinal pigment epithelium detachment, not previously described to

the best of our knowledge 1,2,3,4. Its mechanism of formation, clinical significance and therapy remain to be determined.