Simple Ocular Colobamata in Two Generations of a Family

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Abstract

Generally, colobomata are contemplated as clefts caused by absence of tissue in the inferonasal quadrant of the eye. Failure of the ectodermal optic vesicle fissure to close is regarded as basic etiology of coloboma [1]. Prevalence of ocular colobomata is calculated to be 0.5 to 2.2 cases per 10000 live births. The typical, most frequent location of ocular coloboma is the inferonasal quadrant [2,3]. The author tends to report the presence of simple iris coloboma in female members comprising three generations of an Indian family. The grandmother had simple iris coloboma in right eye, mother in left eye, and daughter in left eye.

Introduction

A 27 year old female presented with her 8 year old girl and 58 year old mother for routine eye checkup. Simple iris coloboma was noted in all three of them.

Figure 1: Simple iris coloboma od in grandmother.

Figure 1: Grandmother with controlled hypertension. Visual acuity was recorded as od 6/6, os 6/6 s. PCIOL was implanted in both eyes. Fundus examination was unremarkable in both eyes.

Figure 2: Simple iris coloboma (OS) in mother.

Figure 2: Best corrected Visual acuity in case of mother was 6/9 and 6/12. OD-9.00 DS PH -3.00 DCYL AT 90 6/9 OS: -11.00 -3.00 DCYL AT 90 6/12. Typical iris coloboma was present in left eye. Slit lamp examination was unremarkable. Fundus examination revealed myopic fundus OU.

Figure 3: Iris coloboma (OS) in granddaughter.

Figure 3: Granddaughter had uncorrected visual acuity of 6/6 OU. Typical iris coloboma was present in left eye. Slit lamp examination and indirect ophthalmoscopy were unremarkable. The mother gave a history of uneventful pregnancy, birth and neonatal history. She was given ‘routine’ drugs, namely fersolate tablets, folic acid tablets, and vitamin B complex tablets.

Discussion

The term coloboma was coined by WALTHER in 1921, to describe a condition wherein a portion of structure of eye is lacking. Congenital ocular colobomata (derived from the Greek...
word koloboma meaning mutilated or curtailed) is supposed to be a consequence of defective embryogenesis. Subsequently, ocular colobomas were categorised as typical or atypical, depending on their location in eye. By definition [4], the typical coloboma is found in region of embryonic cleft (inferonasally) and is due to disturbance of mechanism of closure. Atypical coloboma is located elsewhere and is of different etiology [5]. A typical iris coloboma is characterised by concurrent presence of choroidal coloboma in region of embryonic cleft. Simple iris coloboma or atypical iris coloboma is condition where occurrence of iris coloboma is not accompanied by existence of a typical choroidal coloboma. A complete iris coloboma involves the pigment epithelium and stroma leading to keyhole pupil, which can be unilateral or bilateral. Although isolated iris coloboma is observed, it is often associated with colobomata in other parts of the eye. Chorioretinal coloboma, colobomata affecting the posterior segment of the eye can be unilateral or bilateral. In case the fetal fissure fails to close posteriorly, then a coloboma affecting the retinal pigment epithelium (RPE), neurosensory retina, or choroid may occur. The defect is essentially a bare sclera with the overlying RPE, retina, or choroid missing. Typically occurring in the inferonasal quadrant. Usually, chorioretinal colobomata are asymptomatic despite significant upper visual field defects. Majority patients with Coloboma are clinically asymptomatic. Complications such as retinal detachment and Cataract are associated with retinochoroidal Coloboma. Cataracts of multiple varieties are associated with coloboma including pigment deposits, sub capsular, cortical, anterior and posterior polar and total opacification.

**Conclusion**

The most common mode of inheritance of isolated colobomatous malformation is autosomal dominant, although autosomal recessive inheritance, x linked inheritance has also been observed in some families [4]. Mitochondrial Inheritance needs to be strongly suspected if the Coloboma runs only in female members of generations.

**References**