APAO-APOIS
Imaging Competition
2026 Winners

Imaging the Eye: Helping the World to See

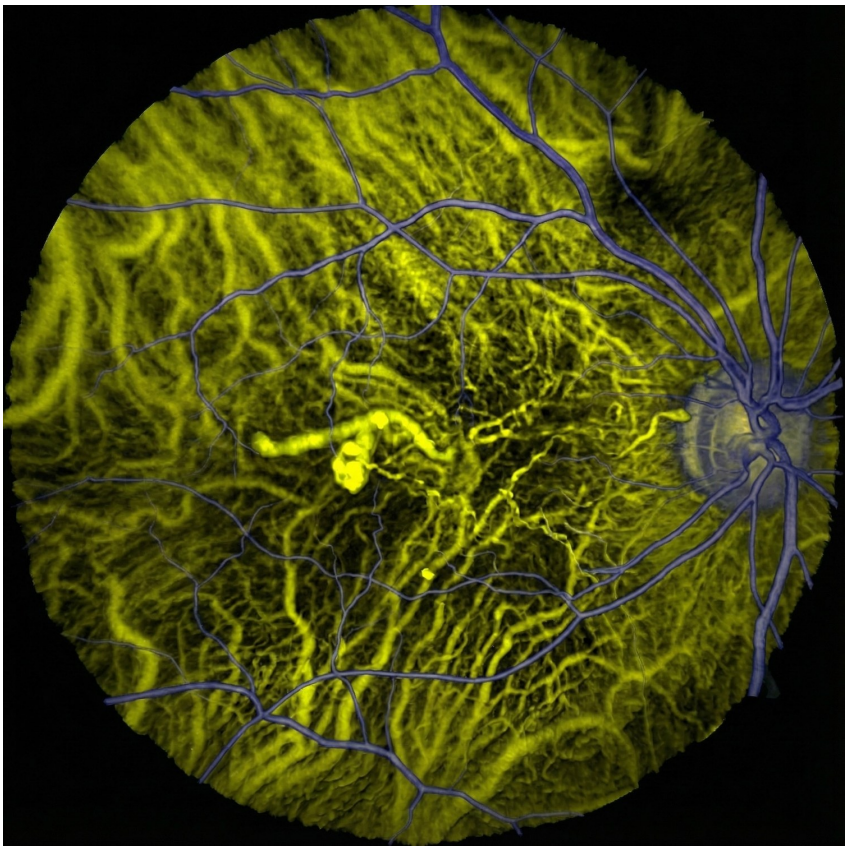
33 winning placements • 10 award categories

OVERALL

Polyp's Light

Winner | Hoang Chi Tam

Submission category: FFA / ICG Angiography



ENTRY DESCRIPTION

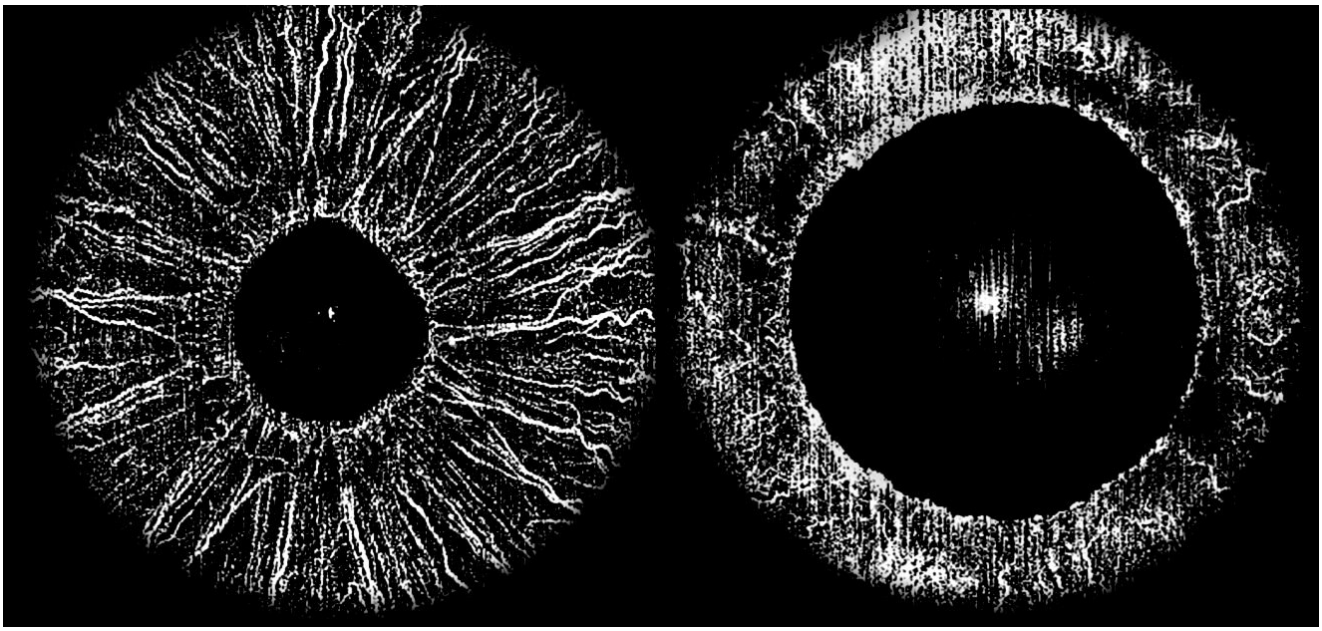
This image is an ICGA of a patient with polypoidal choroidal vasculopathy (PCV), captured in 2023. The patient had undergone numerous intravitreal anti-VEGF injections. With the introduction of second-generation anti-VEGF therapy, the treatment interval was extended to 12 weeks. While the polyps became inactive, they did not fully regress. For a unique visual perspective, I transformed the original ICGA into a 3D representation. In this modified image, the retinal vessels appear in blue-violet tones, forming the superficial layer, while the deeper choroidal vasculature is rendered in yellow-green, emphasizing the structural complexity beneath the retina.

OVERALL

When I Look at You

Runner-up | Andreas Theocharis

Submission category: Windows to the Soul



ENTRY DESCRIPTION

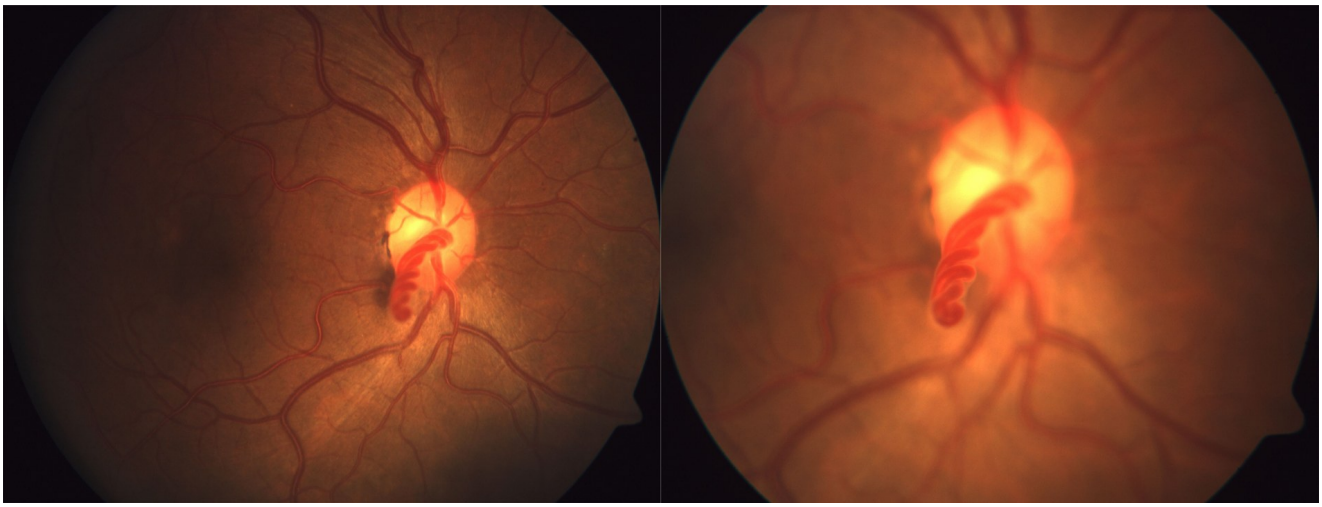
These two en face iris OCTA images are from the same person, one captured with a constricted pupil and the other after dilation. Seen together, they highlight how the iris changes shape and texture as the pupil responds to light, the surrounding scene, or... the person in front of them. Together, they capture a quiet transition that often goes unnoticed.

OVERALL

Corkscrew Vascular Loop

Merit Award | Ram Sudarshan R

Submission category: I Haven't Seen That Before



ENTRY DESCRIPTION

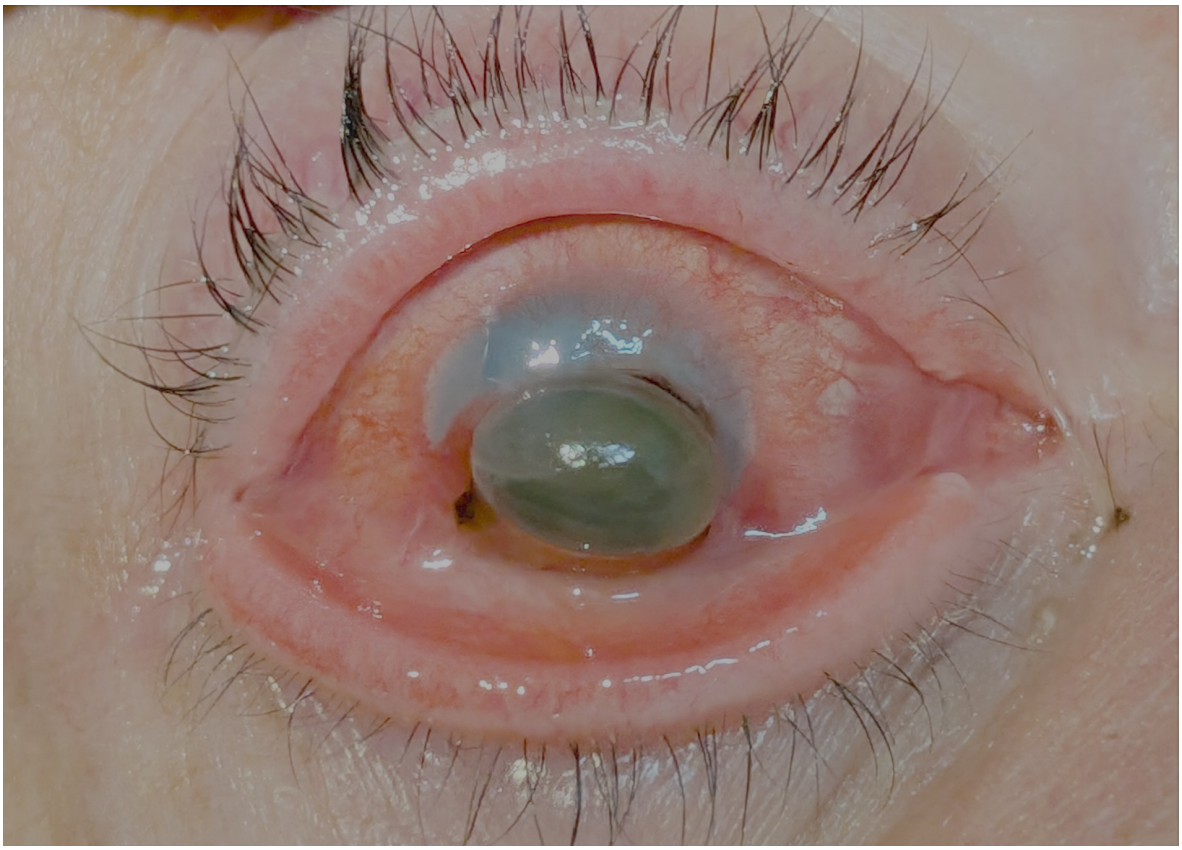
This striking fundus photograph reveals a rare anomalous corkscrew vascular loop arising from the optic disc in an otherwise asymptomatic patient. Its spiraling configuration resembles a tightly wound ribbon, an ocular curiosity seldom encountered in routine practice. This unusual vascular twist highlights the surprising anatomical variants hidden within the eye.

EXTERNAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Hanging On By A Thread

Winner | Jason Ha

Submission category: I Haven't Seen That Before



ENTRY DESCRIPTION

A corneal perforation secondary to microbial keratitis leads to an unexpected but effective tamponade by a cataractous crystalline lens.

EXTERNAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Bilateral Ankyloblepharon Filiforme Adnatum in a newborn - A Rare Clinical Portrait

Runner-up | Dr Nibedita Das



ENTRY DESCRIPTION

A 15 days old female newborn presented with fusion of both eyelids 3 tags of skin like structure starting from middle points of both eyelids extended upto lateral canthi of both of her eyes preventing full opening of eyelids . Early dissection is important to prevent development of amblyopia .

EXTERNAL PHOTOGRAPHY

The System's Blaring Siren

Merit Award | Sushant Adiga

Submission category: Gateway to the Health System



ENTRY DESCRIPTION

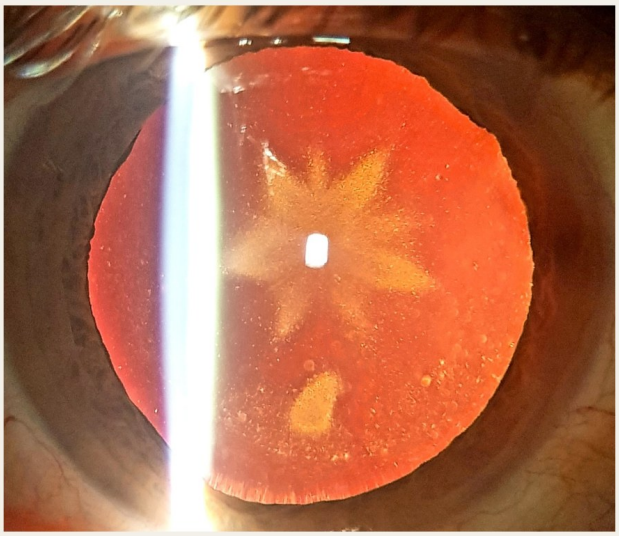
This image captures advanced exophthalmos from low-activity progressive thyroid eye disease, a form that often escapes early detection due to subtle symptoms initially. In many developing countries, delayed care is common because rural patients face limited access to specialists, long travel distances, and financial barriers. The resulting late-stage presentation highlights how easily controllable thyroid dysfunction can escalate when early evaluation is missed, underscoring the eye’s crucial role as a critical entry point for detecting systemic disease.

ANTERIOR SEGMENT PHOTOGRAPHY

A Blossom born out of Trauma

Winner | Laiba Asif





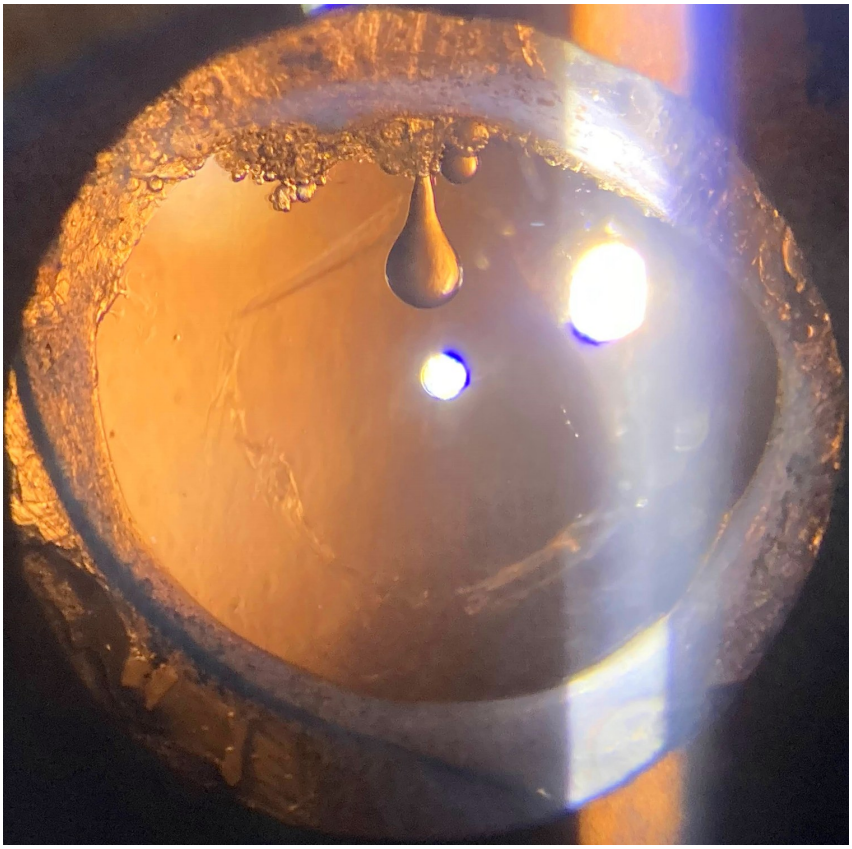
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

This picture tells the story of a young man who presented to us with a complaint of slightly blurred vision in his right eye, on examination of the anterior segment we found out a striking flower shaped cataract in his eye- its delicate radial pattern reminiscent of the orange wild lily. But the bittersweet moment was that this blossom was born to dim the vision rather than blooming it...

ANTERIOR SEGMENT PHOTOGRAPHY

The Tear That Never Falls

Runner-up | Anju Kuriakose



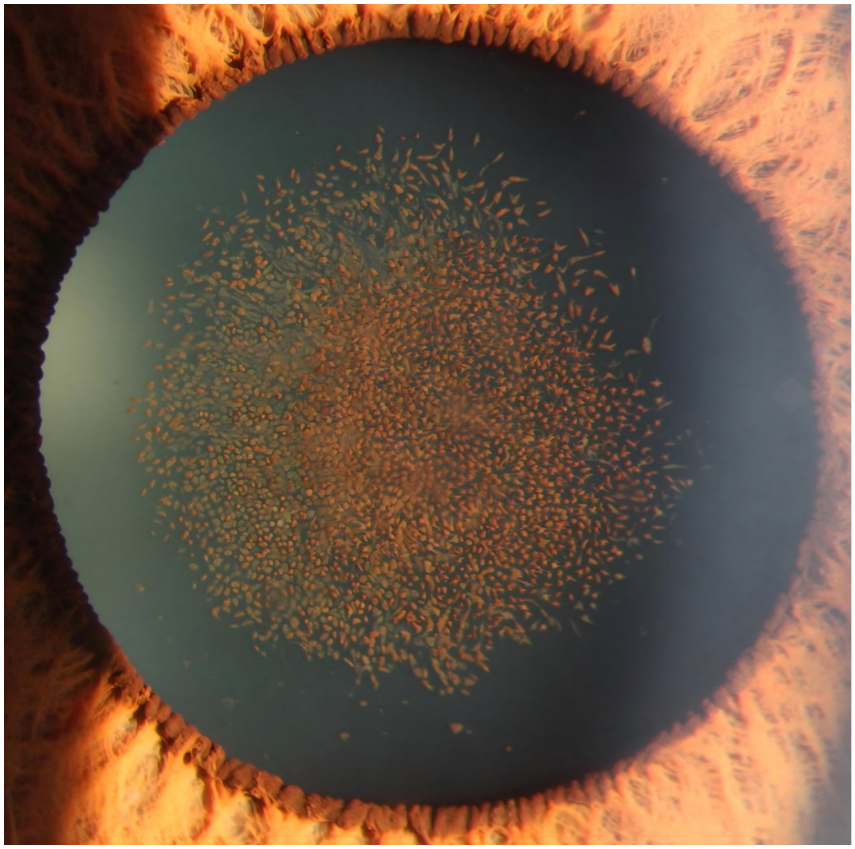
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

On slit■lamp photography a fragile, teardrop■shaped patch of posterior capsular opacification hangs just behind the intraocular lens—motionless, as if snagged on a spider■thin thread. It reads like a tear the eye tried to shed but couldn't; instead of falling it lingers in the soft backlight of retroillumination. A thin golden halo tracing the capsular rim gives the scene an intimate warmth, turning what might be a routine postoperative detail into a quietly human instant. That tiny, frozen droplet becomes a small emblem of recovery—where even the smallest structures seem to pause, to consider, and to hold on until clarity returns

ANTERIOR SEGMENT PHOTOGRAPHY

Sunflower Bloom on Lens in Pigmentary Glaucoma

Merit Award | Zige Fang



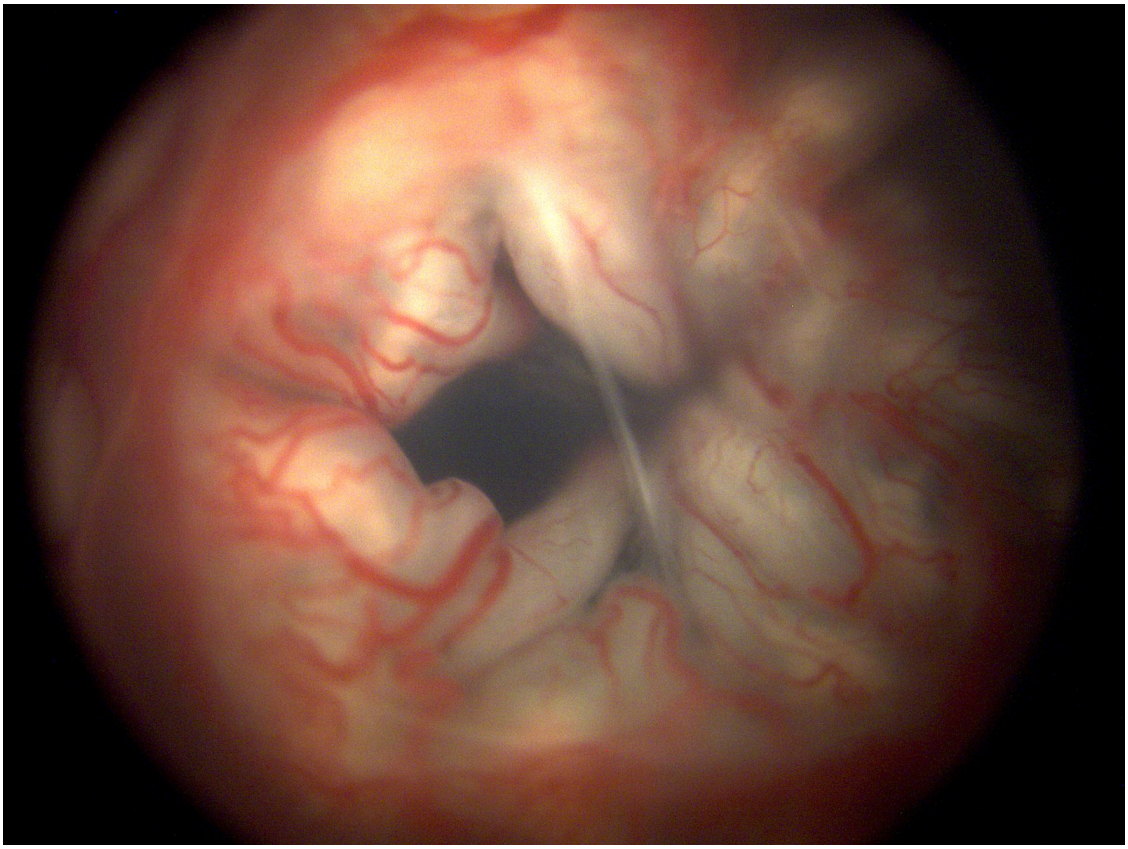
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

A 33-year-old man presented with markedly elevated intraocular pressure (IOP) despite treatment with latanoprost–timolol and brinzolamide–brimonidine. The IOP was 40 mm Hg in both eyes, visual acuity was hand motion in the right eye and 20/63 in the left eye. Examination showed radial, spoke-like depigmentation of the iris, and the anterior lens capsules bore dense pigment clumps in a sunflower-like configuration. Gonioscopy revealed open but densely pigmented angles. The cup-to-disc ratio was 0.9 in both eyes. These findings are consistent with pigmentary glaucoma, in which dispersed iris pigment accumulates in the trabecular meshwork and impairs aqueous outflow, thereby increasing IOP. The patient underwent goniotomy, at the 3-month follow-up, IOP control was achieved without topical hypotensive therapy.

POSTERIOR SEGMENT PHOTOGRAPHY

Whirlpool of Traction: Combined Retinal Detachment in Severe Acute ROP

Winner | Devesh Kumawat



ENTRY DESCRIPTION

RetCam photograph captures a rare and severe presentation of acute retinopathy of prematurity in a preterm infant, characterised by a combined tractional–rhegmatogenous retinal detachment. The converging fibrovascular ring and central retinal distortion create a whirlpool-like configuration, illustrating the rapid and destructive forces at play in advanced disease. This image underscores the vital role of screening, timely intervention, and high-quality neonatal ocular imaging in preventing irreversible visual loss. Aligned with the theme “Imaging the Eye: Helping the World to See,” it highlights how posterior segment photography can reveal pathology at its most urgent, guiding sight-saving care.

POSTERIOR SEGMENT PHOTOGRAPHY

When your retina tries cosplaying as a majestic hazel iris

Runner-up | Kushal Delhiwala



ENTRY DESCRIPTION

Ultrawidefield fundus image of right eye of 28-year-old pseudophakic female who presented with complaint of both eyes gradual onset night blindness since past 10 years. Fundus photo shows disc pallor and advanced 360 degree coalesced circular patches of chorioretinal atrophy exending from far periphery to mid periphery. These findings were suggestive of gyrate atrophy and similar findings were observed in left eye as well. This fundus image resembled hazel iris pattern with central spared area corresponding to pupil.

POSTERIOR SEGMENT PHOTOGRAPHY

THE RETINAL WORMSCAPE

Merit Award | Sandeep Kumar



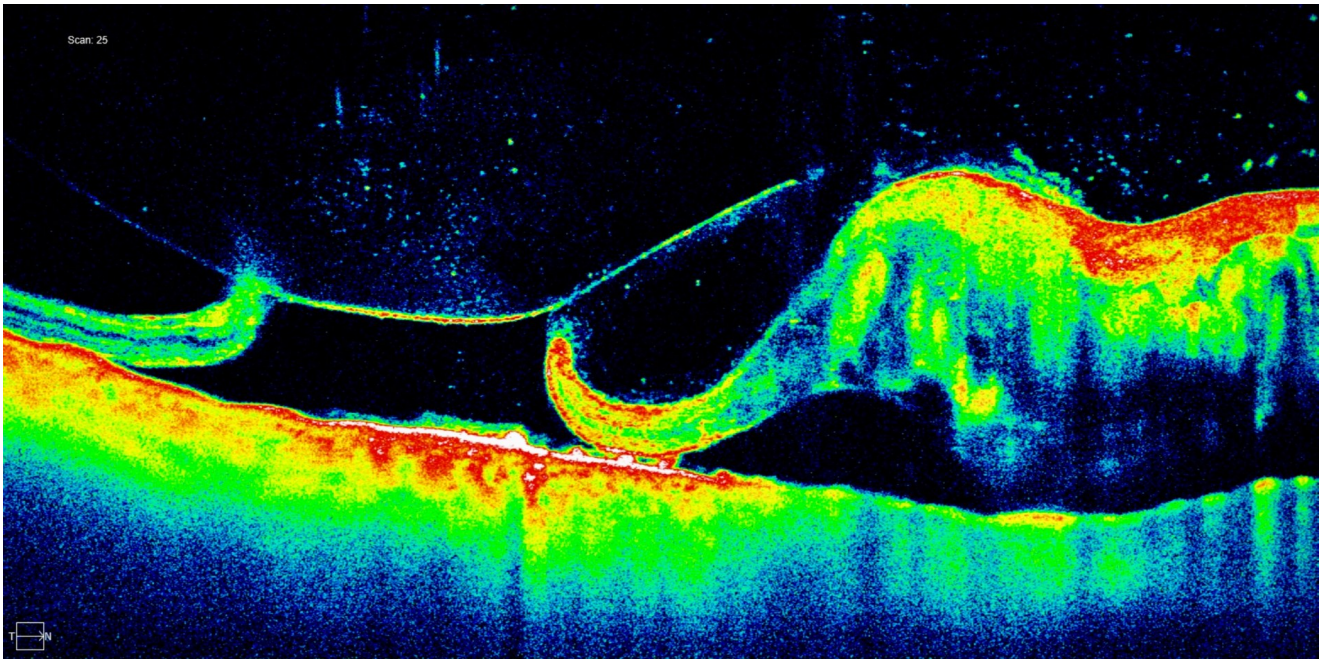
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

A 29-year-old pregnant woman in her third trimester presented with blurred vision. Her systemic evaluation and vital parameters were within normal limits. She reported a mild febrile episode two weeks earlier. Extended viral serology revealed markedly elevated COVID-19 antibody titres, measuring more than 250 times the normal value. OCT imaging confirmed that the apparent retinal folds corresponded to multiple neurosensory detachments

OCT, OCT-A

ELEPHANTINE TRACTION!

Winner | Dr Drishti Singh



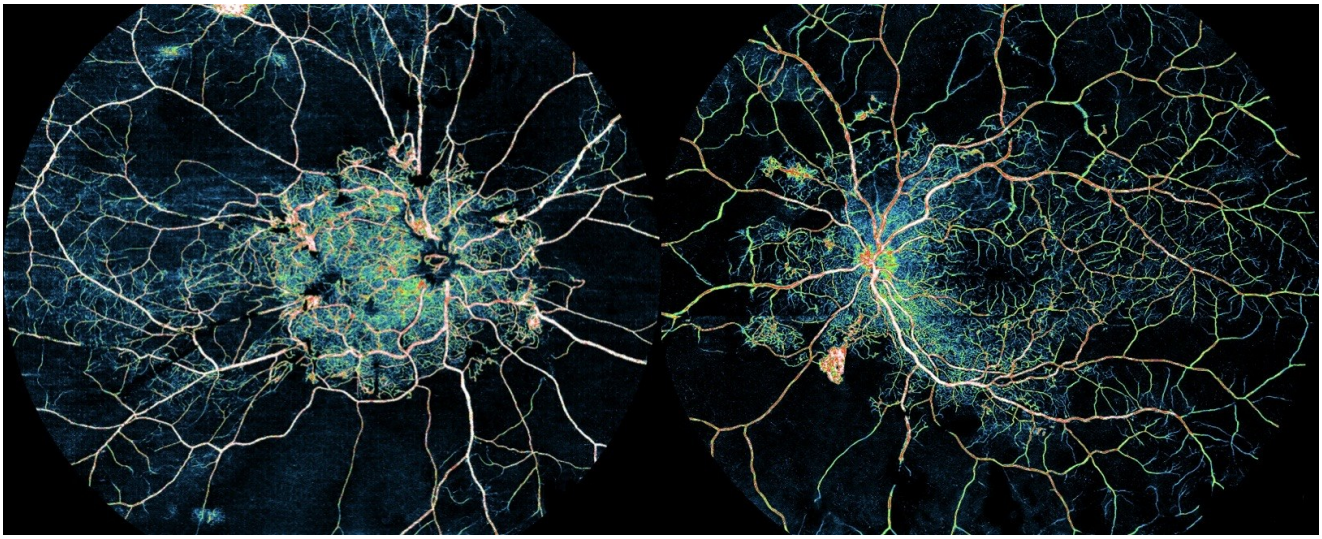
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

An OCT revealing a tractional retinal detachment with a macular hole, forming the silhouette of an elephant — nature’s art within the eye.

OCT, OCT-A

Ischemic Constellations: A PDR Panorama

Runner-up | Dr. Mradula Gangwar



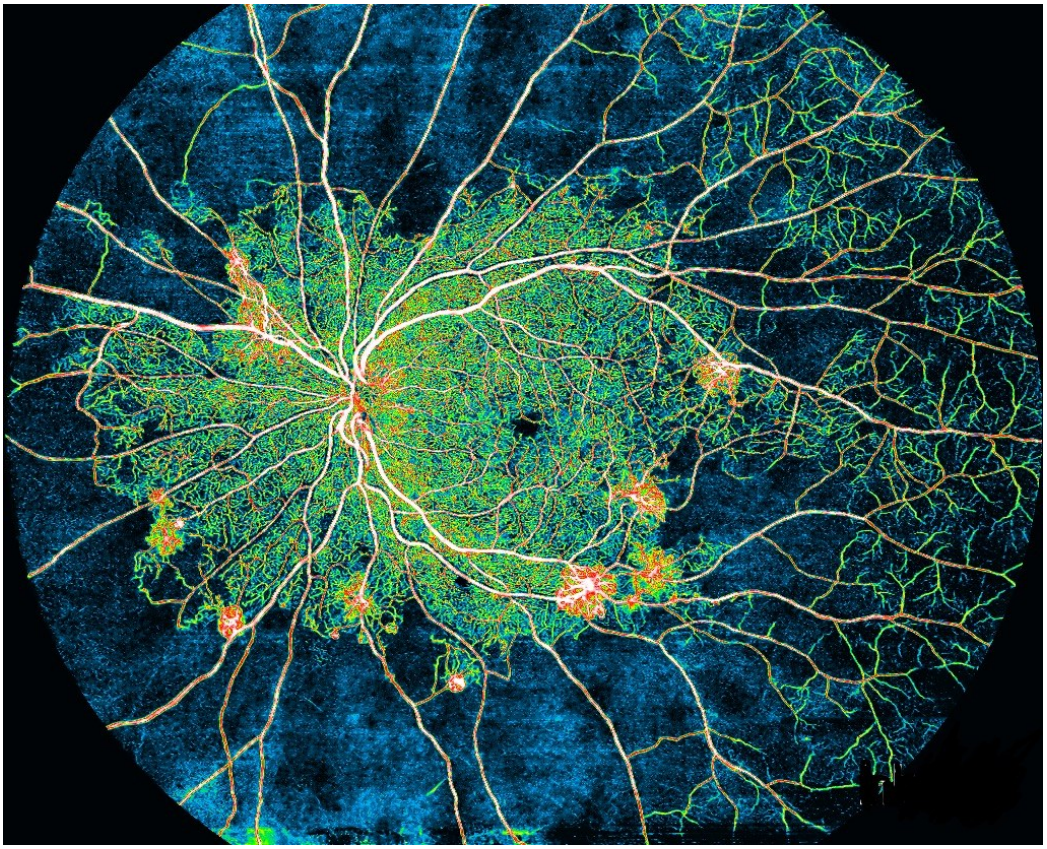
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

A striking visualization of bilateral capillary dropout, irregular perfusion, and rampant neovascularization, showcasing the retina’s fragile struggle against progressive diabetic microvascular damage.

OCT, OCT-A

Raging Forest Fire

Merit Award | Dr Apoorva Jadhav



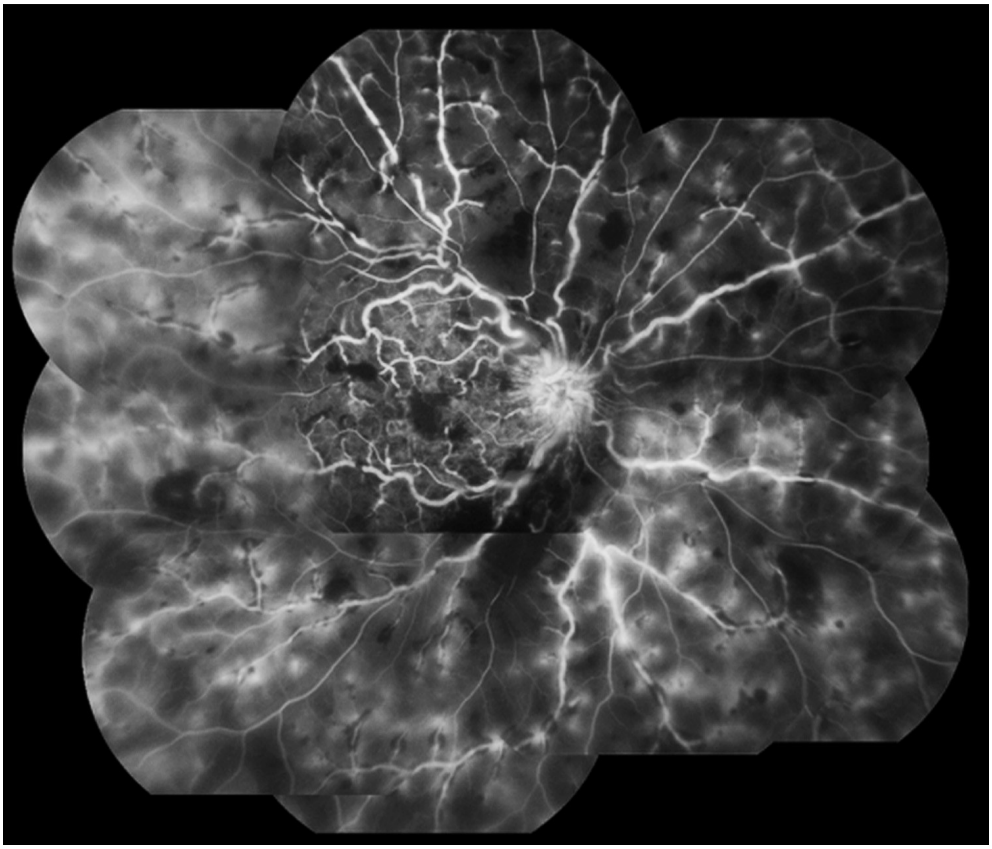
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

A 64 years old gentlemen with DM for 20 years . The left eye had a visual acuity of 6/9.Wide field swept source OCTA revealed bright , hyper reflective network of abnormal vessels with CNP areas , diagnosed to be Proliferative diabetic retinopathy .Patient underwent OCTA guided pan retinal photocoagulation

FFA / ICG ANGIOGRAPHY

The Illuminated Frost: Wide-Field Angiographic Signature of Frosted Branch Angiitis

Winner | Bharat Gurnani



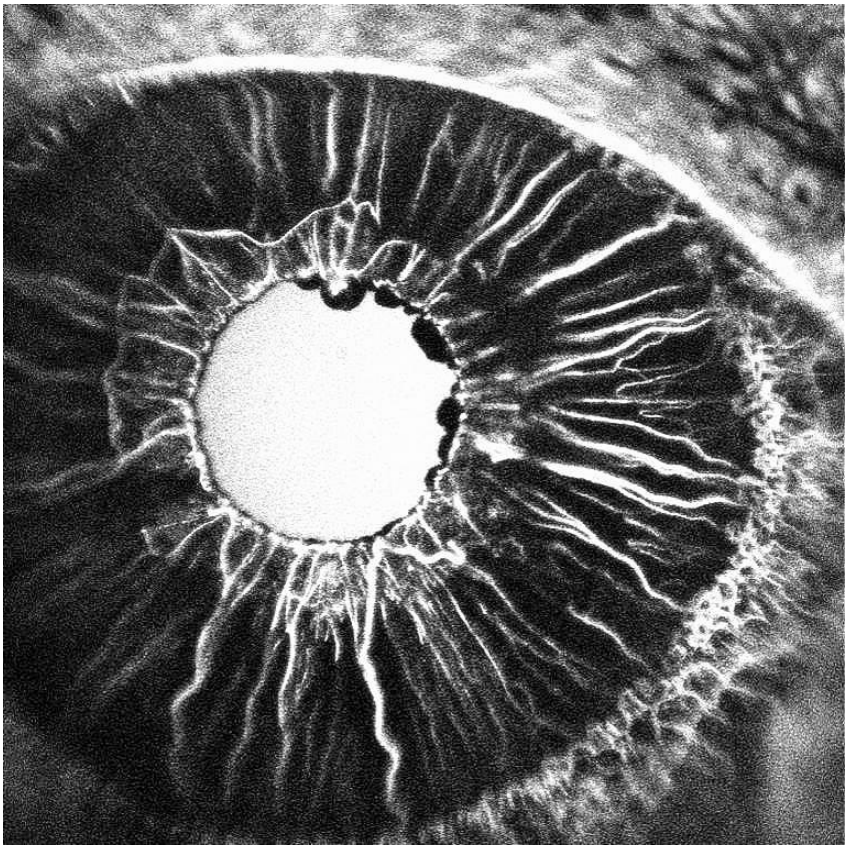
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

A striking wide-field fluorescein angiography montage revealing the classic “frosted” vascular pattern of Frosted Branch Angiitis (FBA). The retinal arterioles and venules appear dramatically sheathed, glowing with intense hyperfluorescence that outlines every vascular bifurcation like branches coated with crystalline ice. The posterior pole displays dense leakage and perivascular staining, radiating outward in a starburst configuration from the optic disc. Peripheral capillary beds exhibit diffuse leakage, mottled hypofluorescent ischemic patches, and subtle vascular pruning. The luminous, frost-like outlines contrast sharply against the darker parenchyma, producing an ethereal, almost sculptural angiographic landscape. This image captures the full 360° inflammatory activity of FBA with exceptional clarity—highlighting widespread vasculitis, endothelial disruption, and perivascular inflammatory edema.

FFA / ICG ANGIOGRAPHY

Iris flocculi - tiny ocular markers of a silent killer

Runner-up | VISHAL RAVAL



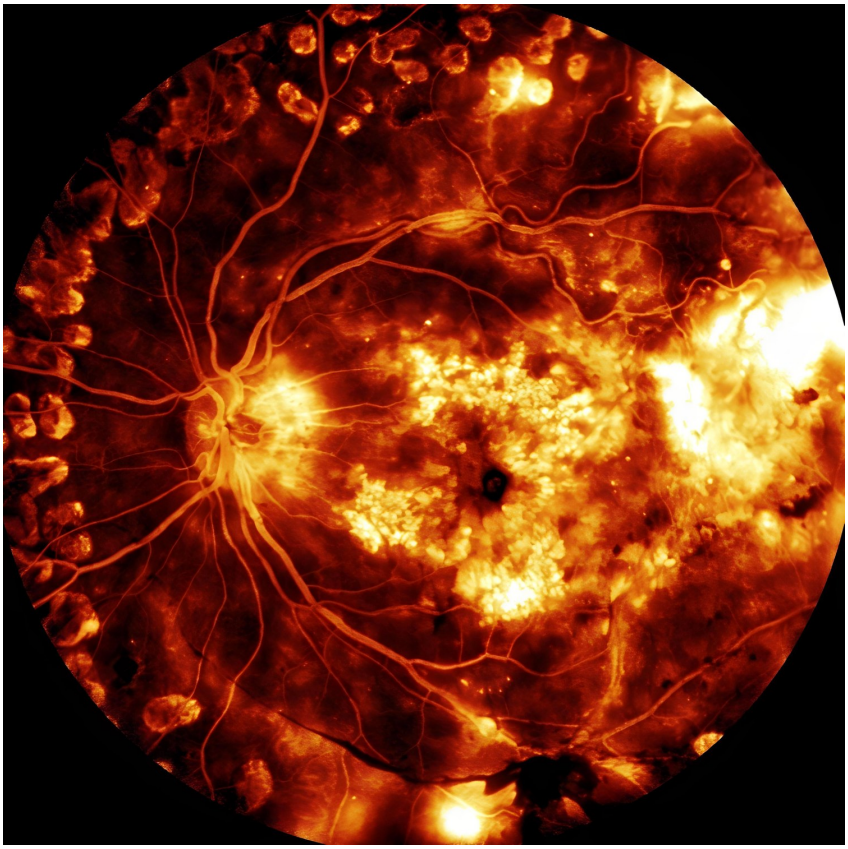
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

Anterior segment fluorescein angiogram reveals punctate non-leaking hyperfluorescent tufts at the pupillary edge — iris flocculi.

FFA / ICG ANGIOGRAPHY

Volcanic Eruption - Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy

Merit Award | Prasanna Venkatesh Ramesh



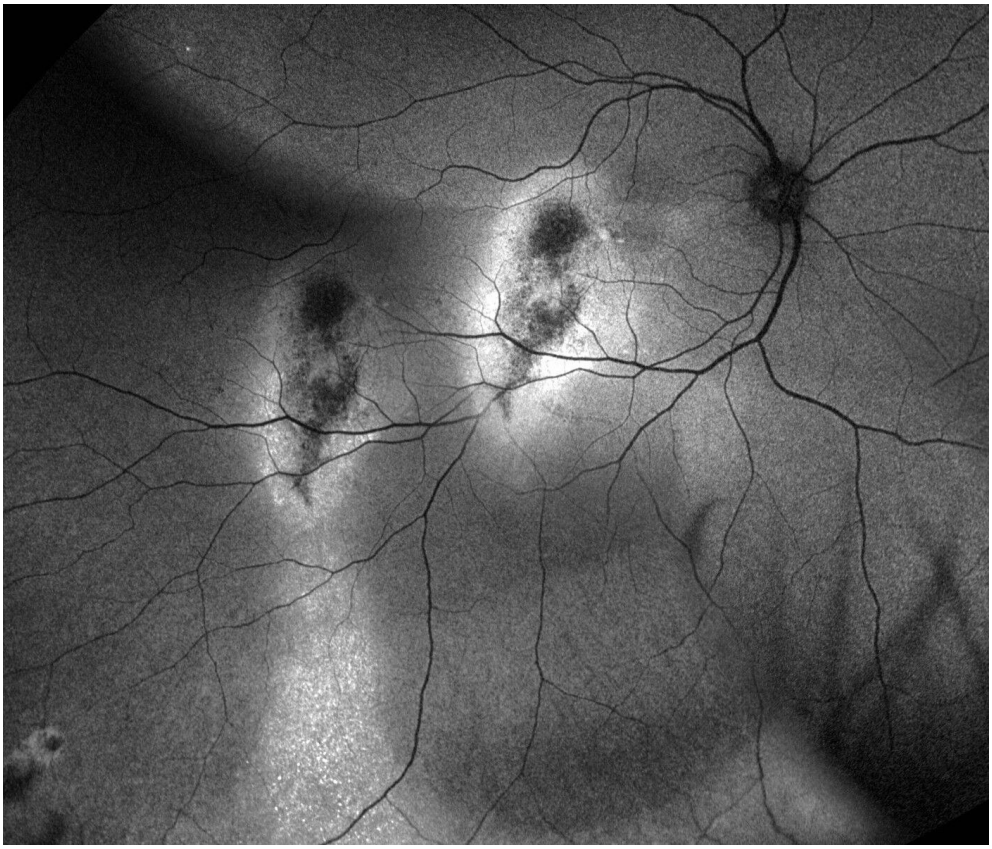
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

Fluorescein angiography (FA) performed for evaluating retinal blood flow, perfusion, and permeability, in patients with diabetic retinopathy (DR). In addition, it helps to assess the treatment efficacy following panretinal photocoagulation (PRP). Panretinal photocoagulation (PRP) laser is performed in proliferative diabetic retinopathy to prevent severe vitreous haemorrhage. The laser causes regression of the abnormal blood vessels which grow at the back of the eye on the retina in diabetic patients. This monochromatic fluorescein angiography (FA) photograph showing old PRP laser spots, neovascularisation on disc and elsewhere, and cystoid macular edema.

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Love birds on the tree appearance in chronic CSCR

Winner | Manu Sharma



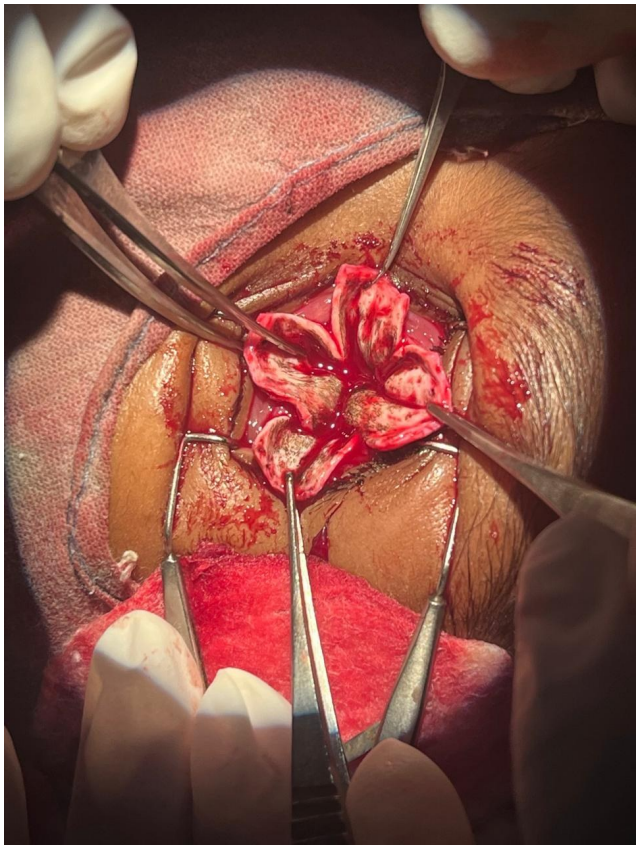
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

A 45-year-old male presented with a diminution of vision in both eyes. Fundus autofluorescence montage of the right eye demonstrated areas of hypoautofluorescence surrounded by hyperautofluorescence, extending inferiorly in a pattern consistent with gravitational tracts. These findings are suggestive of chronic central serous chorioretinopathy and resemble the appearance of birds perched on a tree branch.

ARTS AND CRAFTS

The scalpel: a brush for the bold.

Runner-up | Sneha



ENTRY DESCRIPTION

Flower petal enucleation technique

ARTS AND CRAFTS

An Evolution of Sight: From Cosmos to Code

Merit Award | Mia Zhang



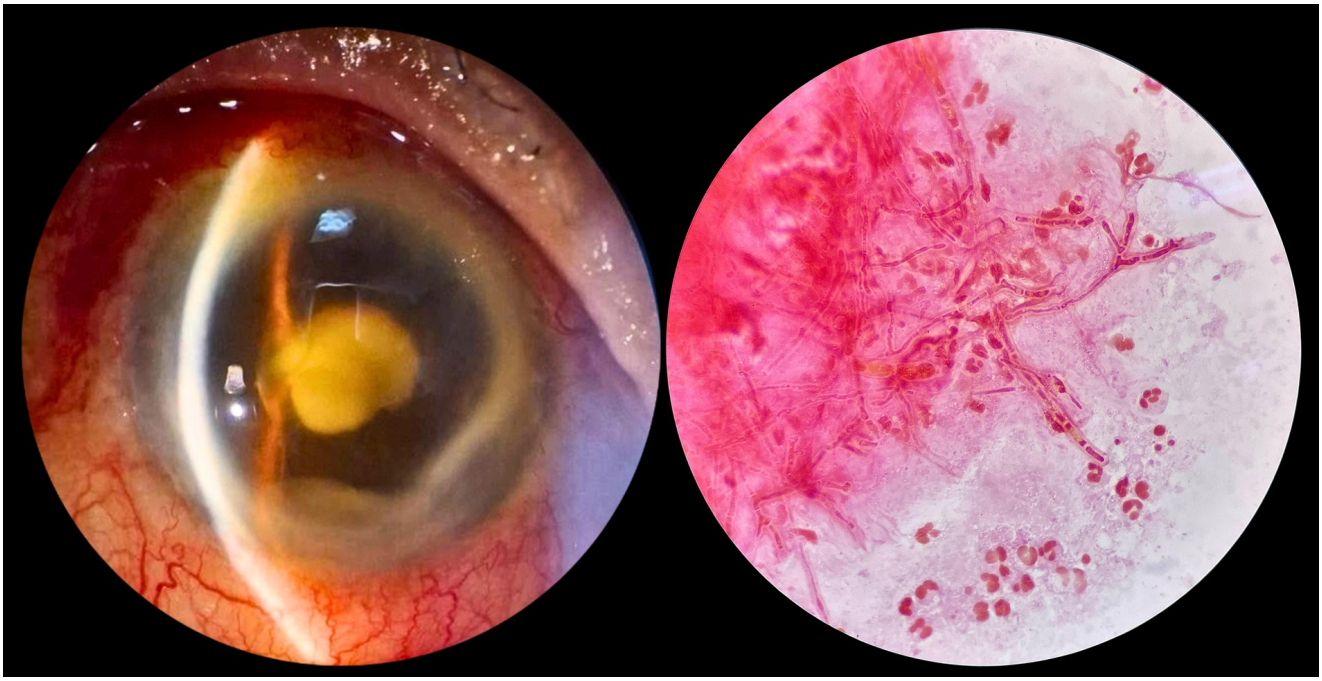
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

These eyes capture humanity's shifting gaze — once searching the stars, now sifting through endless data. The same eyes that once reflected galaxies are now illuminated by screens and code. Ophthalmologists and patients alike stand at the edge of this transformation, navigating a new frontier in how we perceive, diagnose, and protect sight. This work reflects the convergence of art, science, and technology within the human gaze and our timeless pursuit of knowledge.

GATEWAY TO THE HEALTH SYSTEM

The Silent Bloom Within

Winner | HINDUN ZAKIYAH



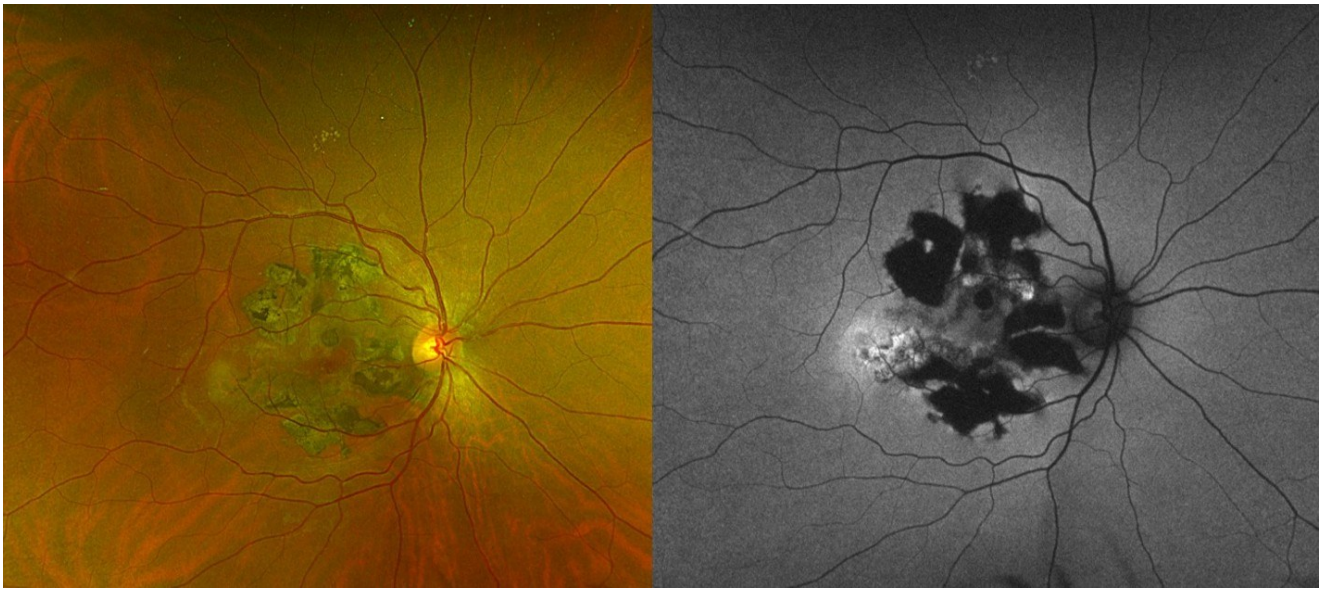
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

Fungal endophthalmitis in an immunocompromised patient—where the eye becomes a fragile garden, revealing the body’s hidden vulnerability.

GATEWAY TO THE HEALTH SYSTEM

When the Eye Remembers What the Body Forgot

Runner-up | Sashwanthi Mohan



ENTRY DESCRIPTION

A 36-year-old male presented with blurred vision and was found to have serpiginous choroiditis in the right eye. Fundus autofluorescence (FAF) revealed an area of active hyperautofluorescence temporally. Further evaluation showed a positive QuantiFERON-TB Gold test, and on probing, the patient recalled being treated for tuberculosis as a child. He was started on anti-tubercular therapy and systemic steroids — a reminder that ocular imaging can reveal echoes of systemic disease long after their apparent resolution.

GATEWAY TO THE HEALTH SYSTEM

EYES : STAIRWAY TO BRAINS CHAMBER OF SECRETS.

Merit Award | Mr. ABHISHEK G NAIR



ENTRY DESCRIPTION

This is the Zeiss clarus fundus image showing compressive primary optic atrophy in right eye and contralateral papilledema in left eye which is classical of Foster-Kennedy syndrome. Magnetic resonance imaging shows opto-chiasmatic glioma with extension into the intraorbital portion of right optic nerve. Patient was immediately referred to a neurosurgeon for further managment thus decreasing the morbidity and mortality. Here we see how our eyes pave the way towards brains deepest secrets.

WINDOWS TO THE SOUL

Celestial Echoes of Embryogenesis

Winner | Ninganagouda patil



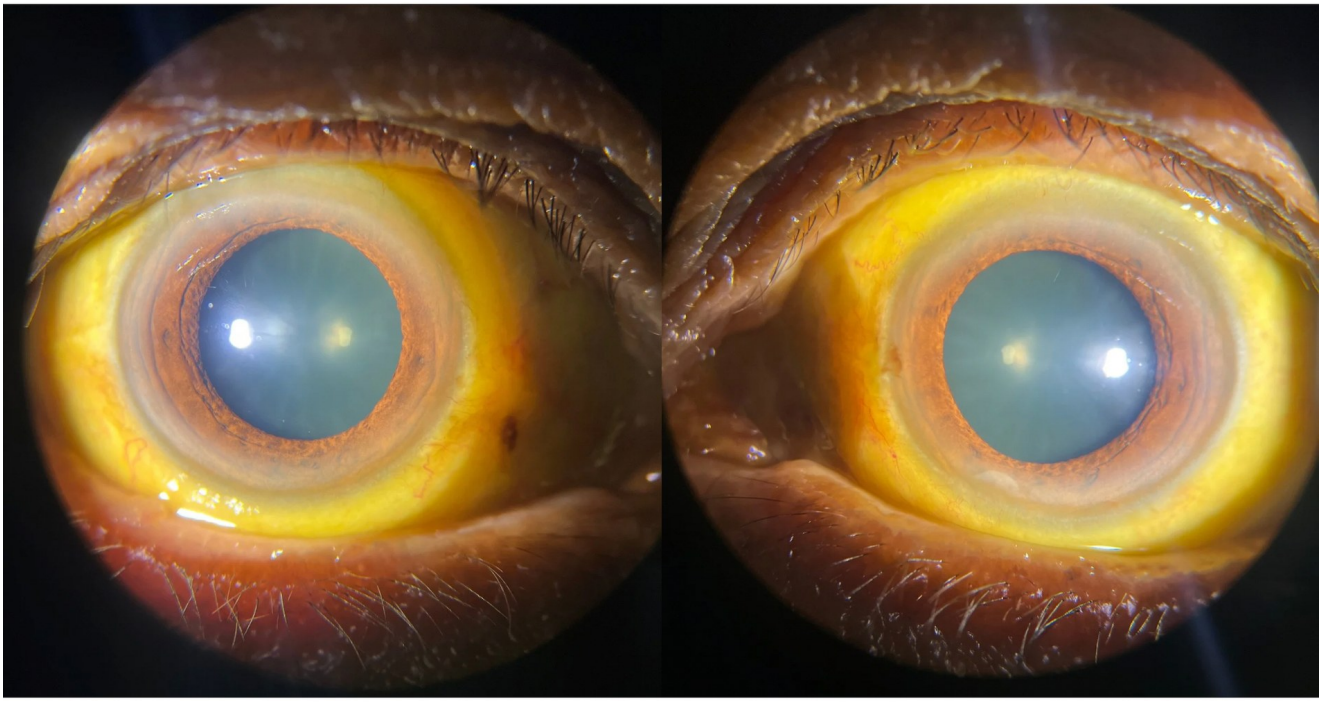
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

In the quiet glow of the slit lamp, the eye unveils a hidden sky.

WINDOWS TO THE SOUL

Golden Horizon When Jaundice Meets Vision's Divide

Runner-up | Ronik H. Kamal



ENTRY DESCRIPTION

This paired image reveals a striking dual horizon within one patient—two eyes illuminated by scleral icterus from obstructive cholangiocarcinoma, yet each telling a different visual story. The right eye, reduced to hand-movement vision, shows optic atrophy with thinning of the RNFL and GCL–IPL, its afferent signal dimmed like a setting sun. The left eye remains crisp at 6/6, though subtle field loss hints at early compromise. Tigroid fundi mirror systemic fragility, while clear corneas and lenses contrast against the vivid yellow sclera. “Golden Horizon” captures moment where systemic disease paints the eyes in gold, revealing both vulnerability and resilience within a single soul.

WINDOWS TO THE SOUL

The Eye of a Mountain Guide

Merit Award | Wai Yong Zheng



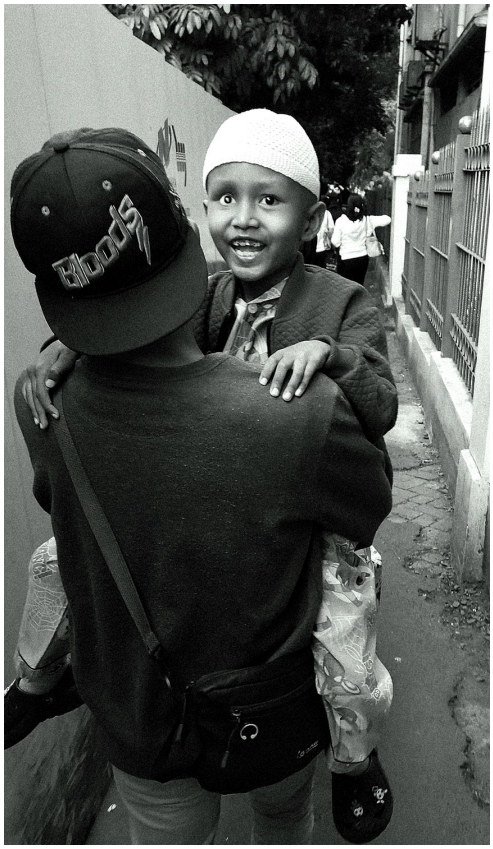
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

This montage portrays the silent burden carried by a Kinabalu mountain guide whose years of harsh ultraviolet exposure have shaped his vision and his life. Prolonged sunlight led to a dense anterior capsular cataract, gradually dimming the world he once knew so clearly. While guiding climbers to the summit, he could no longer appreciate the breathtaking pyramid shadow cast by Mount Kinabalu at dawn—a moment I captured during my own ascent. This work aims to highlight the importance of ocular protection, early screening, and preserving sight for those whose livelihoods depend on the mountains each day they guide us safely.

SEEING IS BELIEVING

Miles for Vision: A Father's Carry, A Child's Courage

Winner | Micheal Hartono



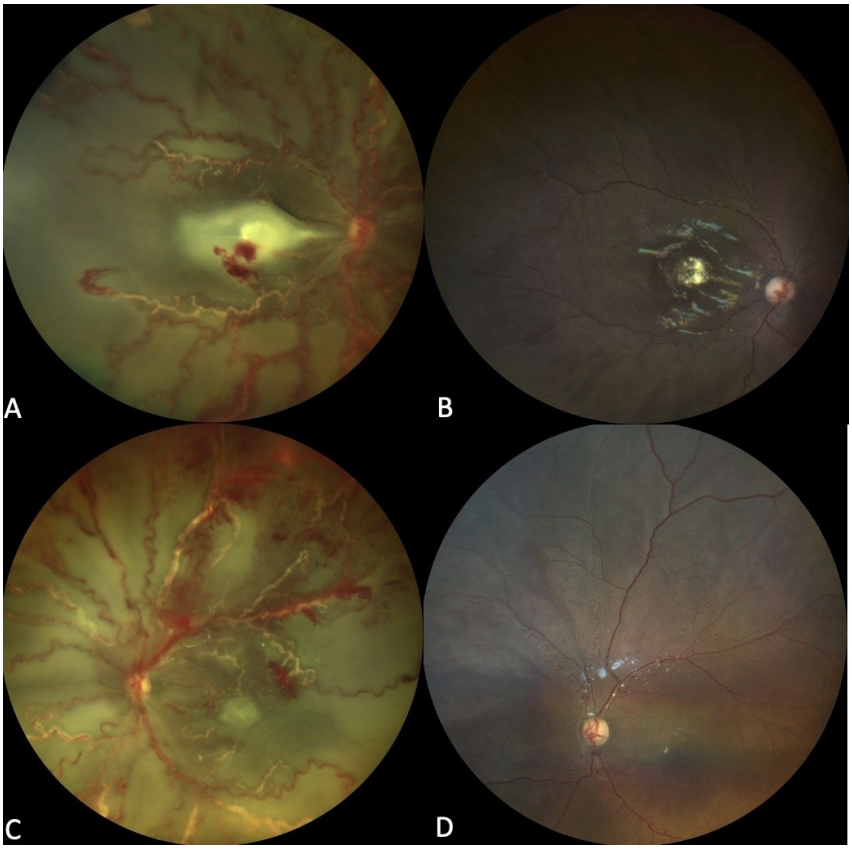
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

Captured on the way to a hospital visit with my Samsung Galaxy camera, this image follows a father traveling long distances through crowded trains and repeated clinic visits in search of clear vision for his son. The child’s joyful smize contrasts with the hardships of their journey, showing how hope can rise from everyday struggle. This photograph stands as a testament to parental devotion, the pursuit of sight, and the quiet transformations made possible by compassionate care.

SEEING IS BELIEVING

ROP with a twist of sepsis

Runner-up | Dhwanee Agarwal



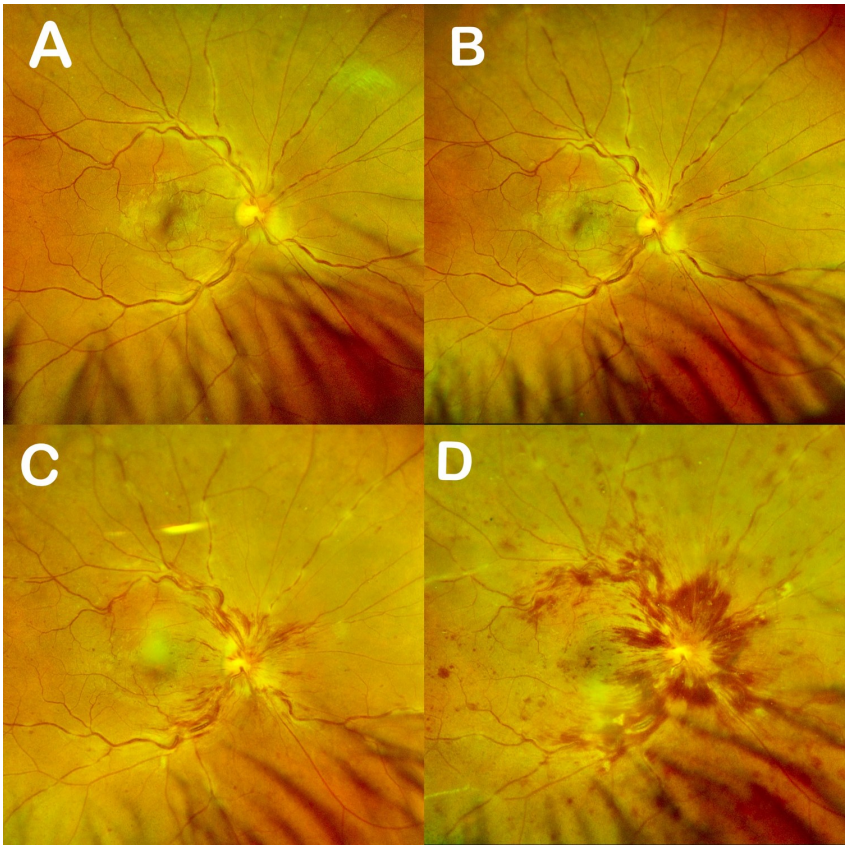
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

This paired, time-sequenced montage of right and left eye fundus photographs documents an unusual presentation of aggressive retinopathy of prematurity complicated by bilateral subretinal abscesses in the setting of systemic sepsis. Management included a single intravitreal bevacizumab injection, with systemic antibiotics and ocular monitoring.

SEEING IS BELIEVING

The Unstoppable Storm: Evolution of CRVO

Merit Award | Vinit Tanwar



ENTRY DESCRIPTION

This composite illustrates the relentless progression of Central Retinal Vein Occlusion (CRVO) in a 44-year-old hypertensive male.

I HAVEN'T SEEN THAT BEFORE

The Giant Over the Eye

Winner | Putri Pamulani



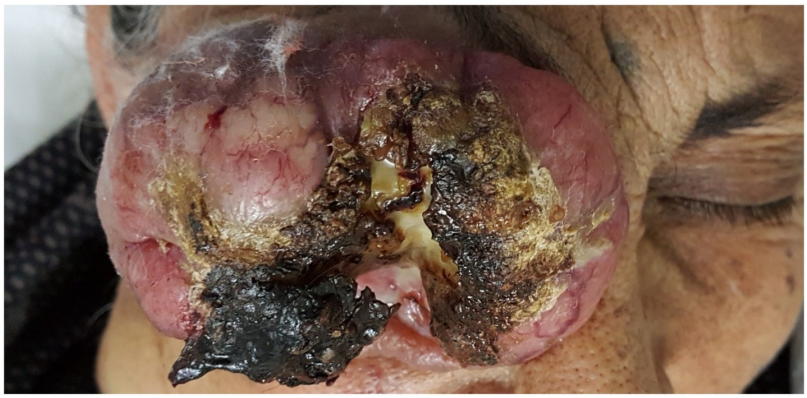
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

This image shows an extraordinarily large ocular-region mass measuring about 8 cm × 7 cm × 2 cm, representing an advanced squamous cell carcinoma. The lesion exhibits irregular nodularity, keratinized surfaces, ulceration, and necrotic areas, reflecting unchecked, aggressive growth. Despite the dramatic tissue involvement, the patient's visual acuity remains 0.2 with a Rosenbaum chart, and he can even move the mass by blinking. Captured with a smartphone camera and direct illumination, this rare presentation highlights the unexpected nature of severe ocular disease and the importance of early detection.

I HAVEN'T SEEN THAT BEFORE

Where healthcare was distant, suffering arrived first

Runner-up | MUHAMMAD NASAR KHAN





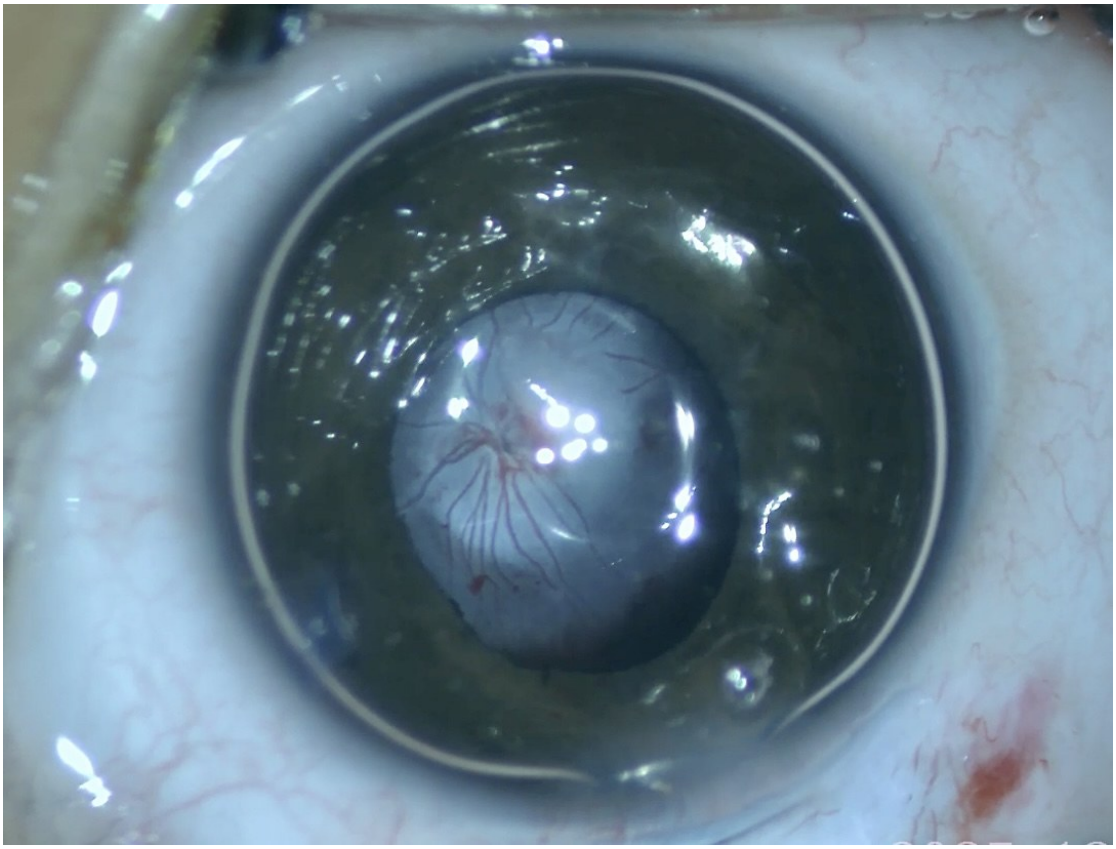
ENTRY DESCRIPTION

Lady came to my clinic carrying a weight far heavier than the massive orbital squamous cell carcinoma that had consumed her eye. For months perhaps years, she had lived in a remote village with no access to tertiary care. Poverty and distance kept tightening their grip, until the disease silently grew into something overwhelming. By the time she reached us, the tumor had spread to her orbit and cervical lymph nodes, and the pain had become unbearable.

I HAVEN'T SEEN THAT BEFORE

The Eye That Stayed Foetal

Merit Award | Shivohn da Silva



ENTRY DESCRIPTION

This intraoperative image reveals persistent tunica vasculosa lentis and retrolental fibrovascular tissue, demonstrating preserved fetal vasculature. Captured at 45 days of life, coaxial microscope illumination sharply delineates the embryologic circulation and associated tractional distortion of the lens. The photograph offers a rare glimpse of ocular development arrested in vivo, illustrating how failed regression of primary vitreous architecture can influence visual outcomes.