LATE ONSET CAPSULAR BLOCK SYNDROME: TREATMENT WITH ANTERIOR ND-YAG LASER CAPSULOTOMY

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Purpose: To describe the management of a late onset capsular block syndrome (CBS).

Methods: Case report.

Results: An 80 years old woman presented with loss of visual acuity in her left eye and no other symptoms. She had undergone phacoemulsification and intraocular lens implantation in that eye 12 years before.

Best corrected visual acuity in that eye was 0.2 and the slit-lamp examination and anterior segment optic coherence tomography showed a retro-optical space filled with a milky content. CBS diagnosis was made.

Mydriatic eyedrops instillation and anterior capsulotomy with Nd-YAG laser was performed in order to allow the milky content drain into the anterior chamber.

After 2 weeks, the visual acuity had improved to 0.6 and there was no evidence of milky content in the slit-lamp examination.

Conclusions: CBS is a rare complication of phacoemulsification. Many possible managements have been proposed such as observation, vitrectomy or more frequently posterior capsulotomy with laser Nd-YAG.
We present a rare late onset CBS 12 years after the surgery. We decided to perform an anterior capsulotomy with laser Nd-YAG because of its advantages. It is an easy and secure maneuver to perform and reduces the risk of endophthalmitis compared to the posterior capsulotomy. Nevertheless, intraocular pressure should be assessed in the following medical examination as the content drained into the anterior chamber may block the trabecular meshwork.

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