

Uveitis: *OHS*

Histo: Basics

What is the causative organism in ocular histoplasmosis syndrome (OHS)?

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- 2) The profiled case is meshed
- 3) A differential diagnosis list is generated
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tl;dr As of this writing, the *BCSC* considers causality **likely**, but not **proven**.

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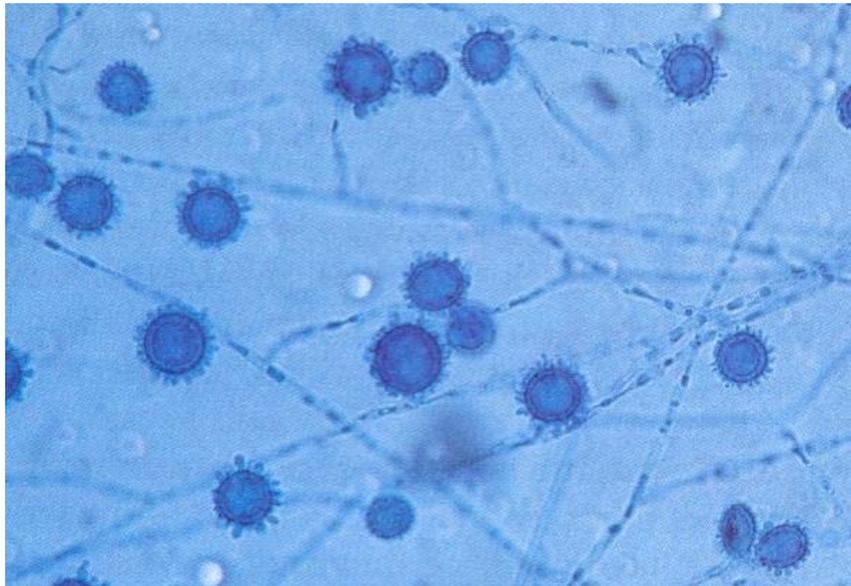
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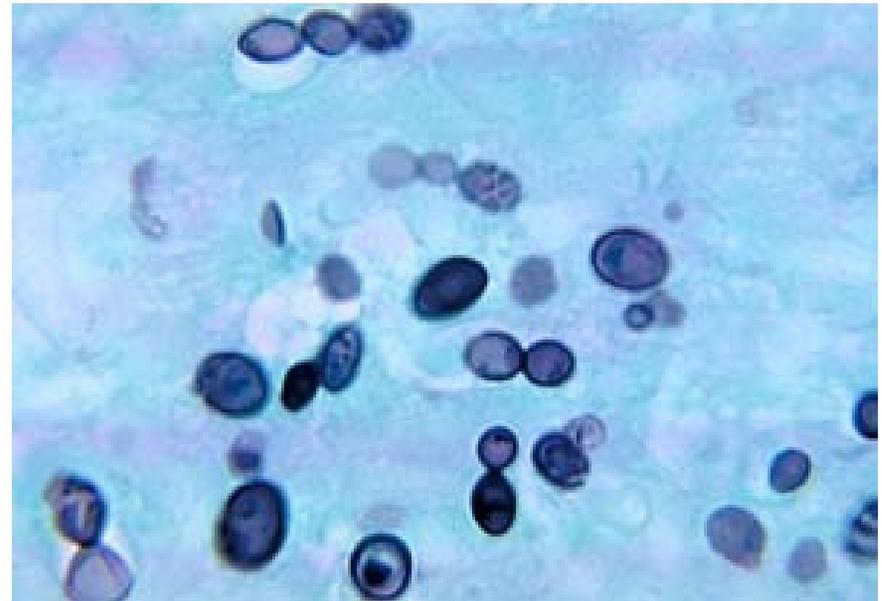
What does it mean to say a fungus is 'dimorphic'?

It means the organism has both a yeast form and a filamentous (mold) form

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H capsulatum: Mold (filamentous) form



H capsulatum: Yeast form

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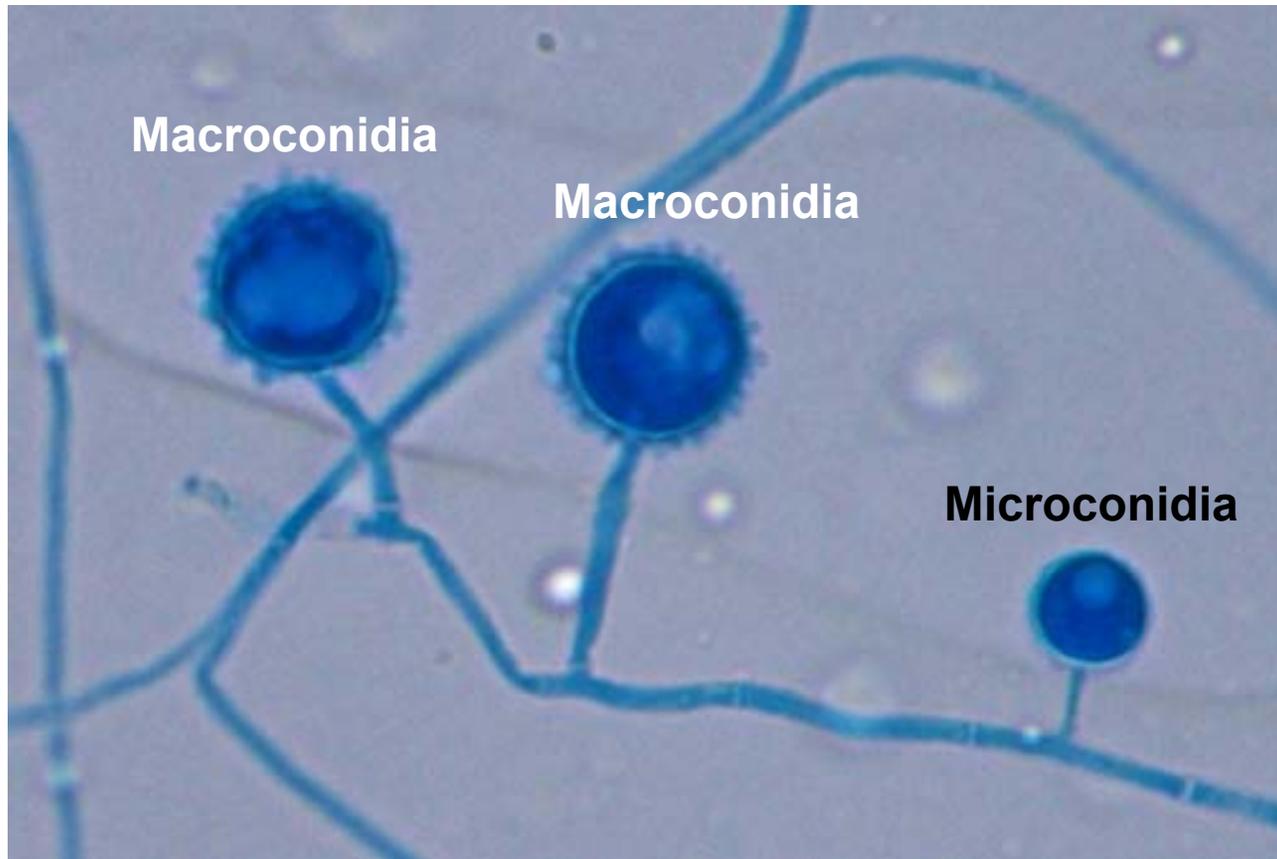
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Microconidia are the infectious particles of the mold, while the ***macroconidia*** are characteristic of the organism and provide a clue to its identification!

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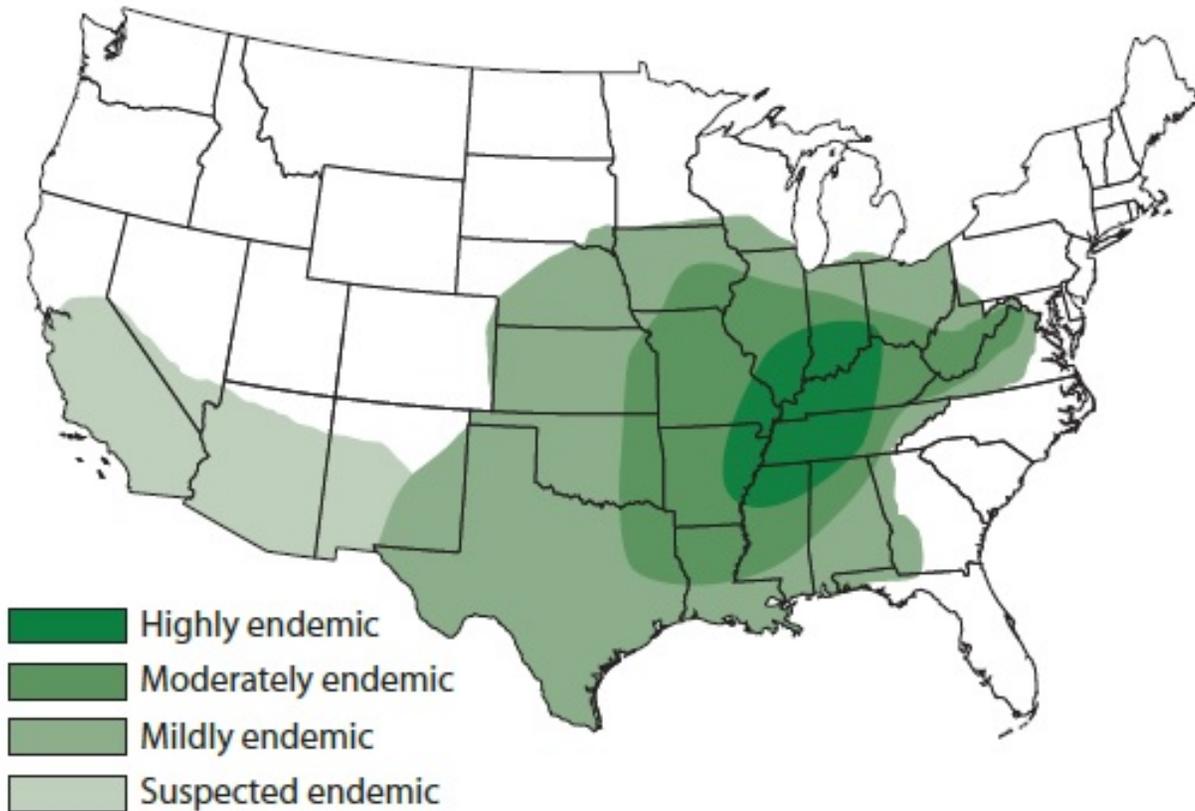
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Areas Endemic for Histoplasmosis



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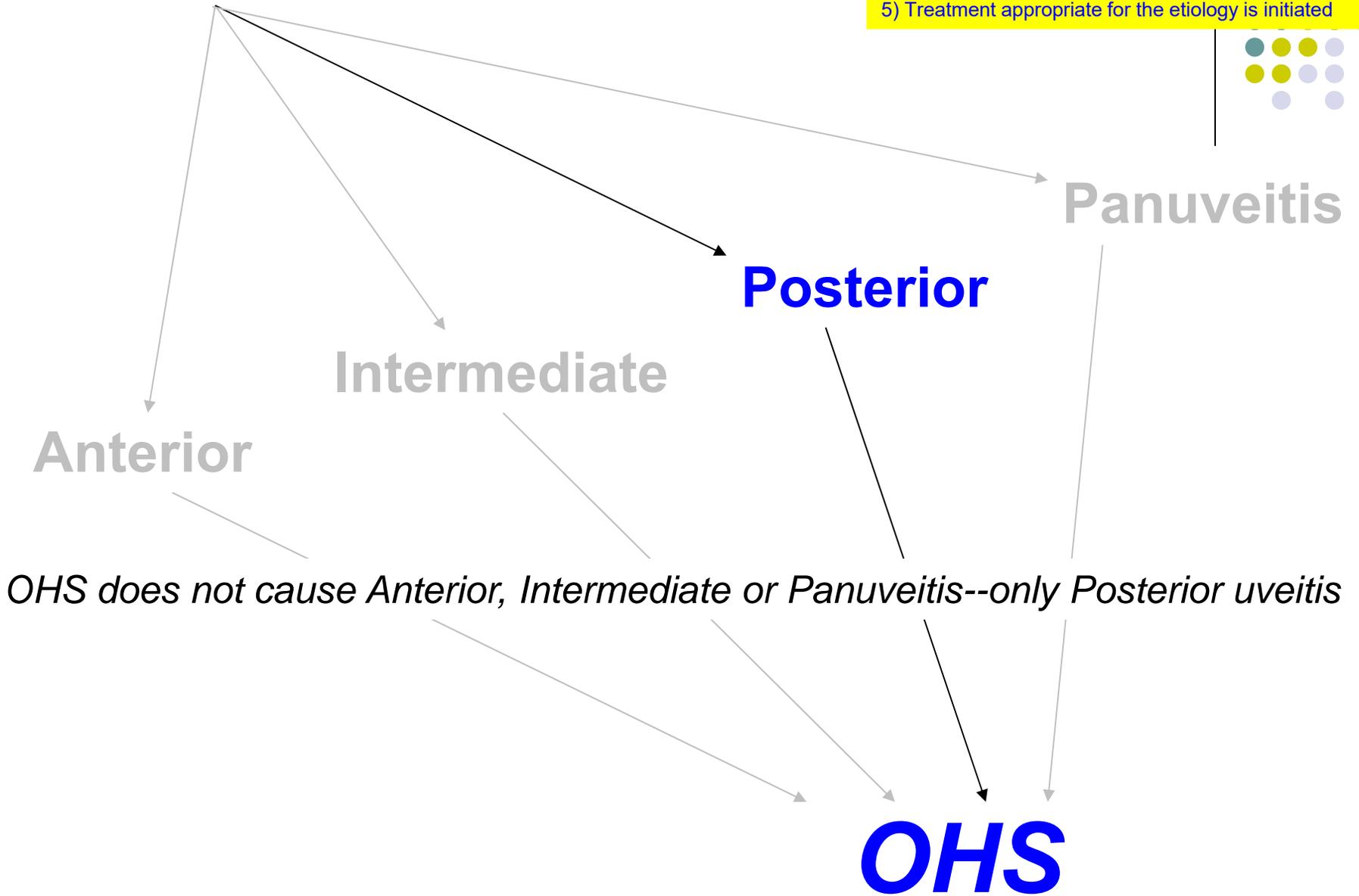
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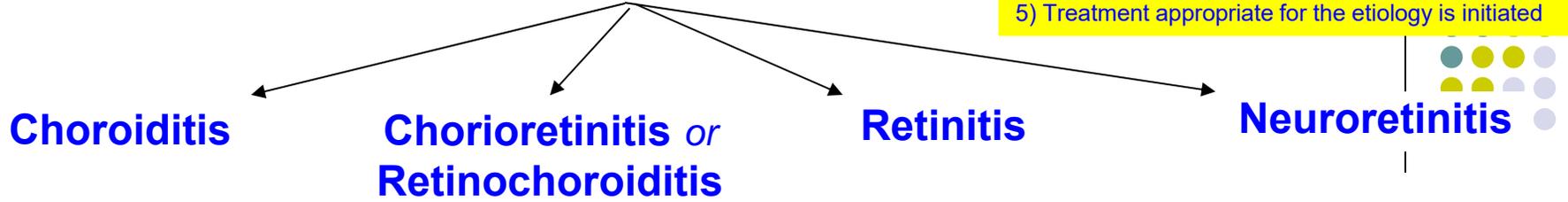
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Uveitis: *Posterior*

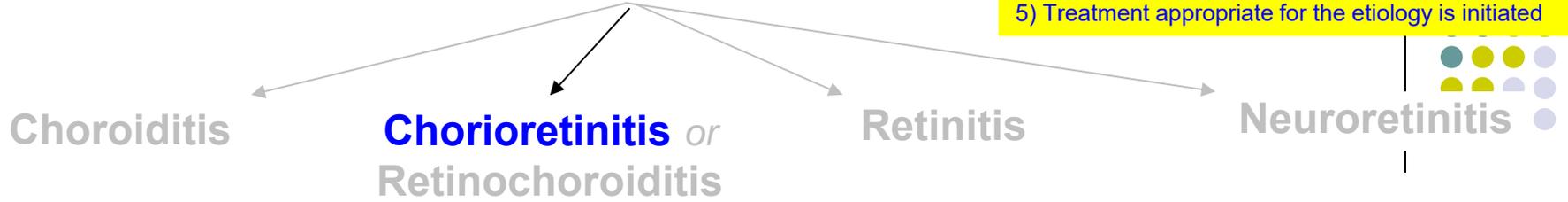
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Uveitis: *Posterior*

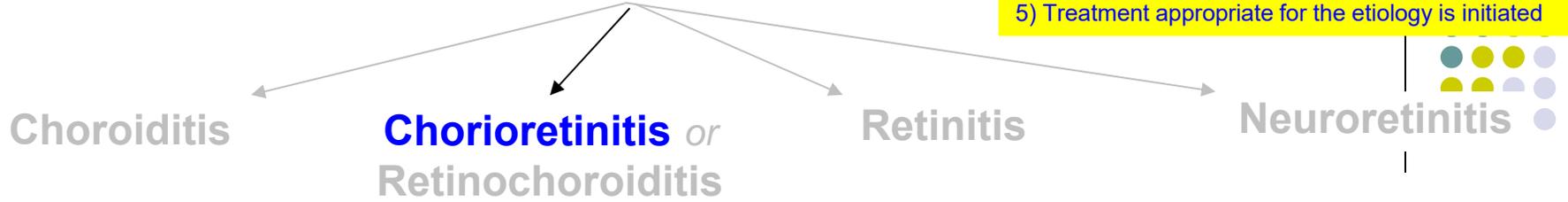
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A multifocal chorioretinitis

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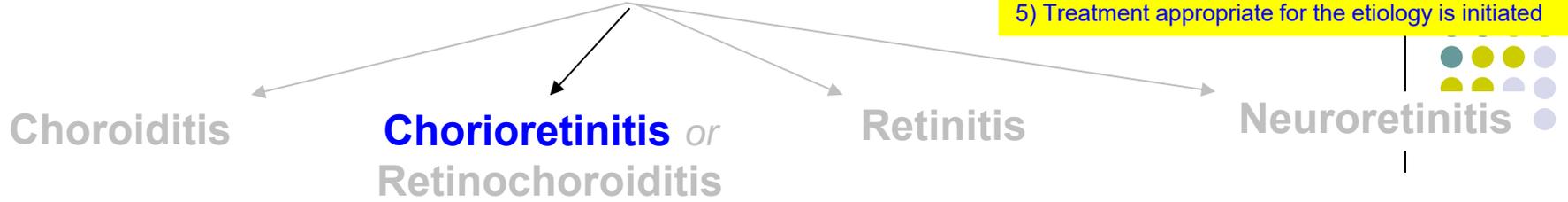


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Re the three lesions of OHS: **Histo spots**
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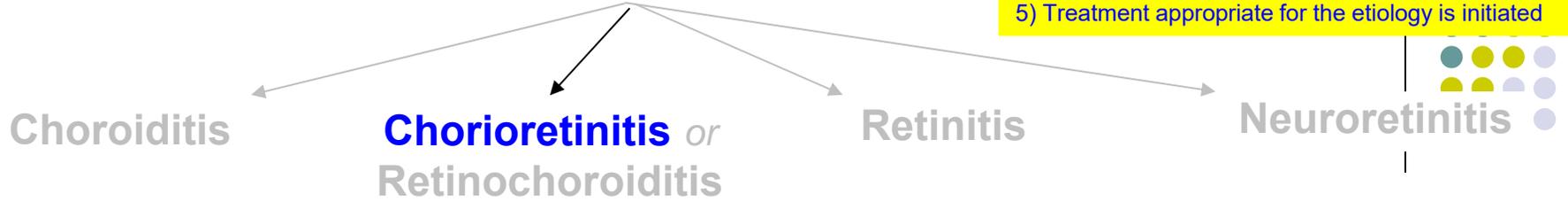


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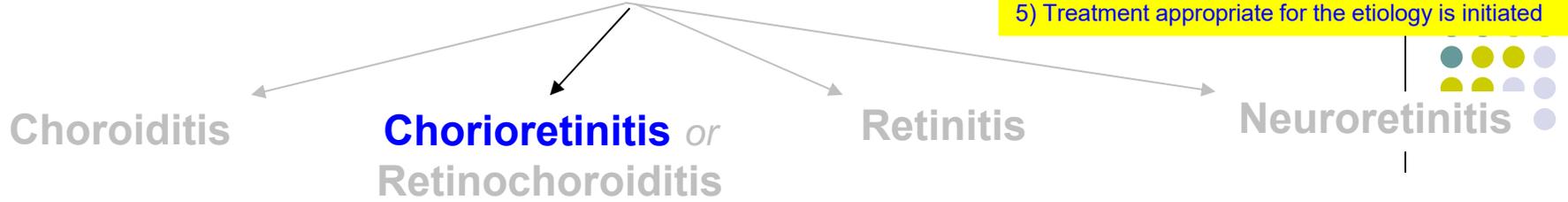


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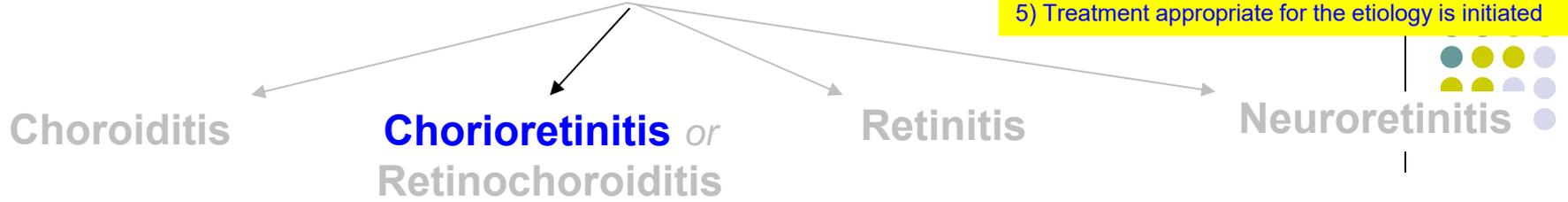


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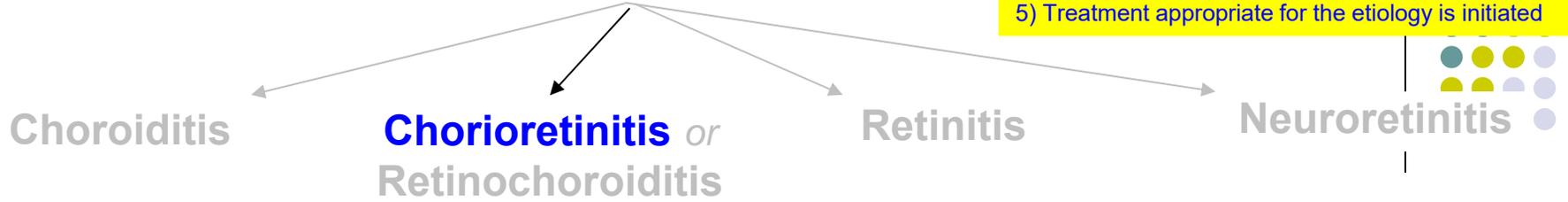


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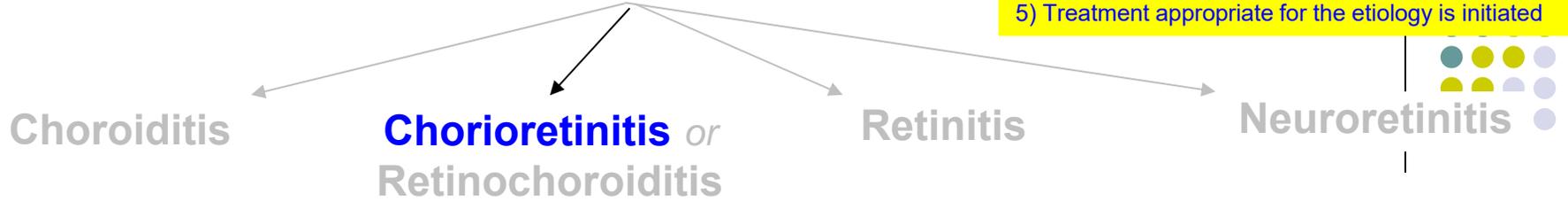


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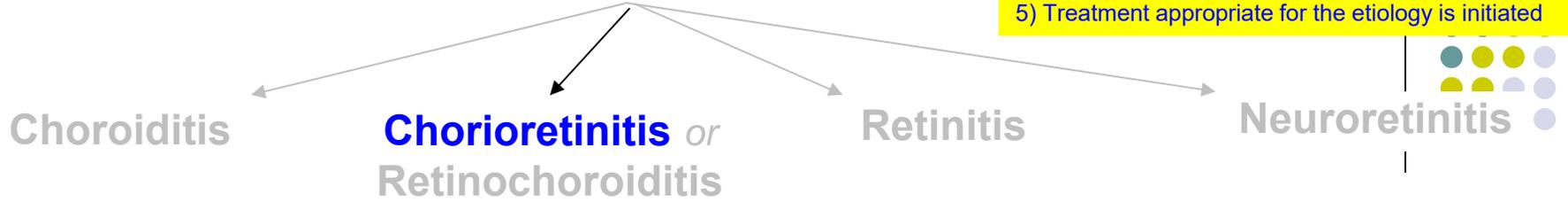


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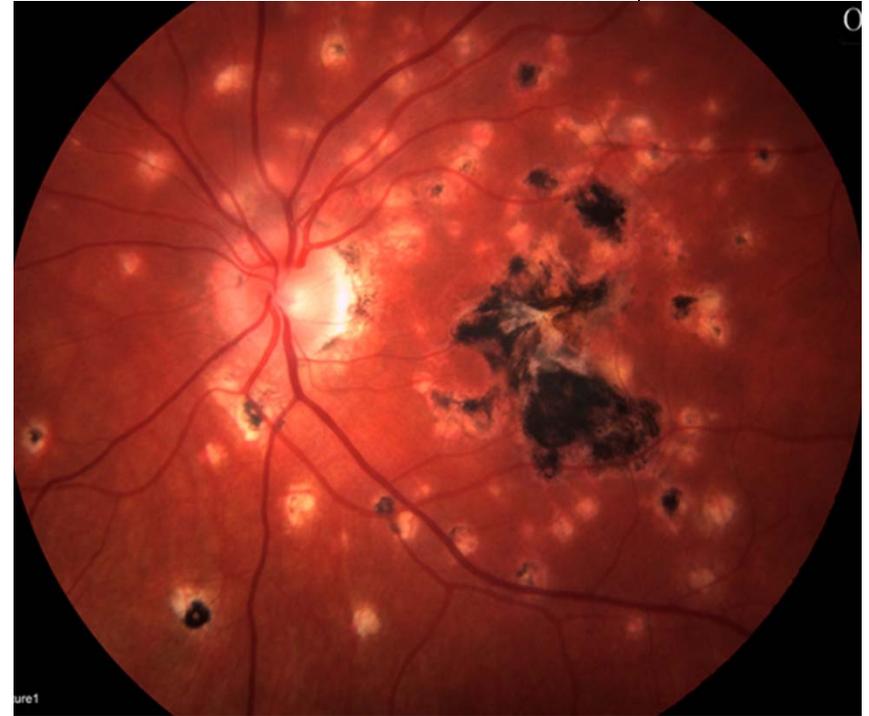
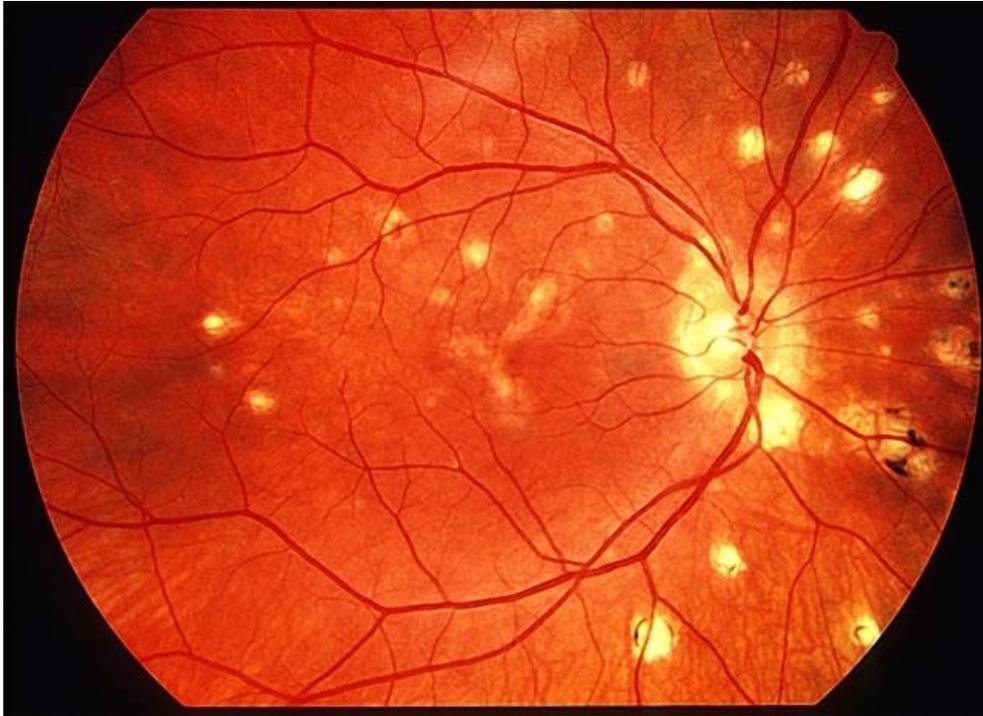
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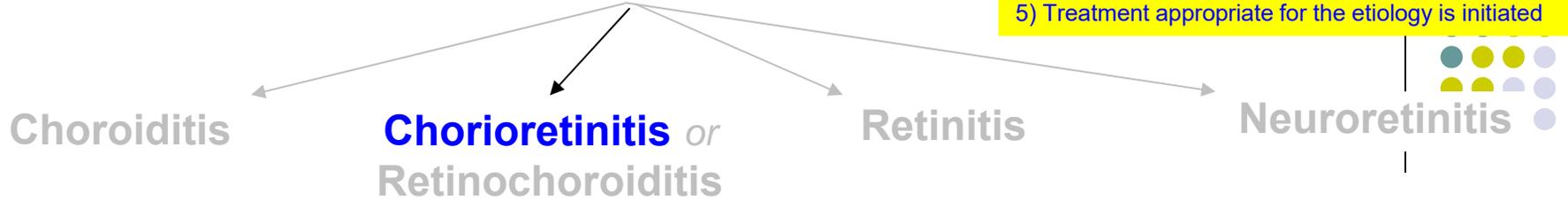
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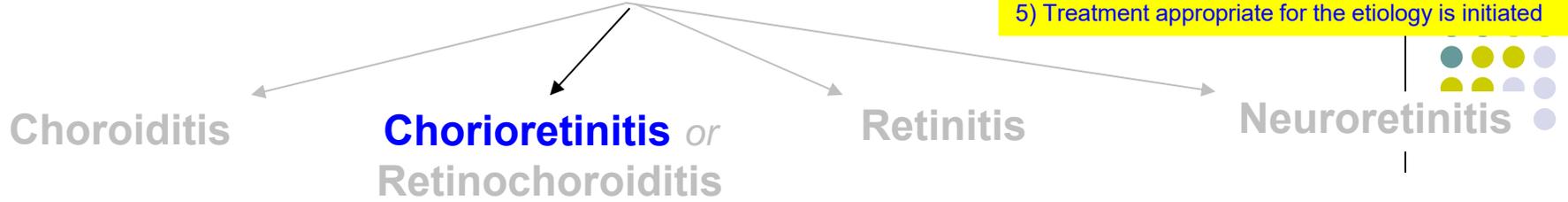


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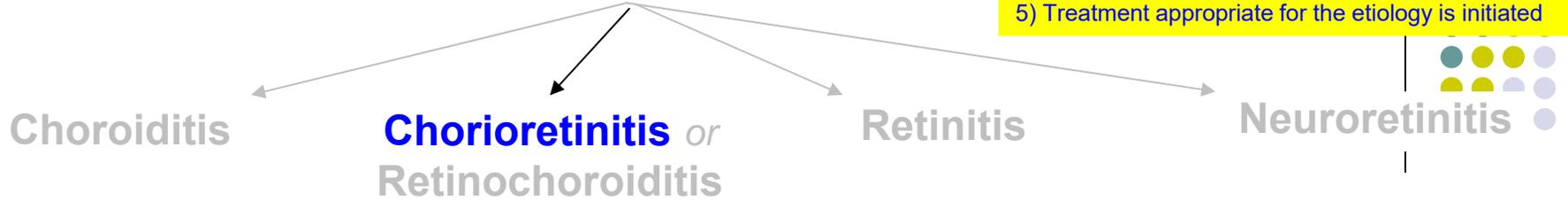


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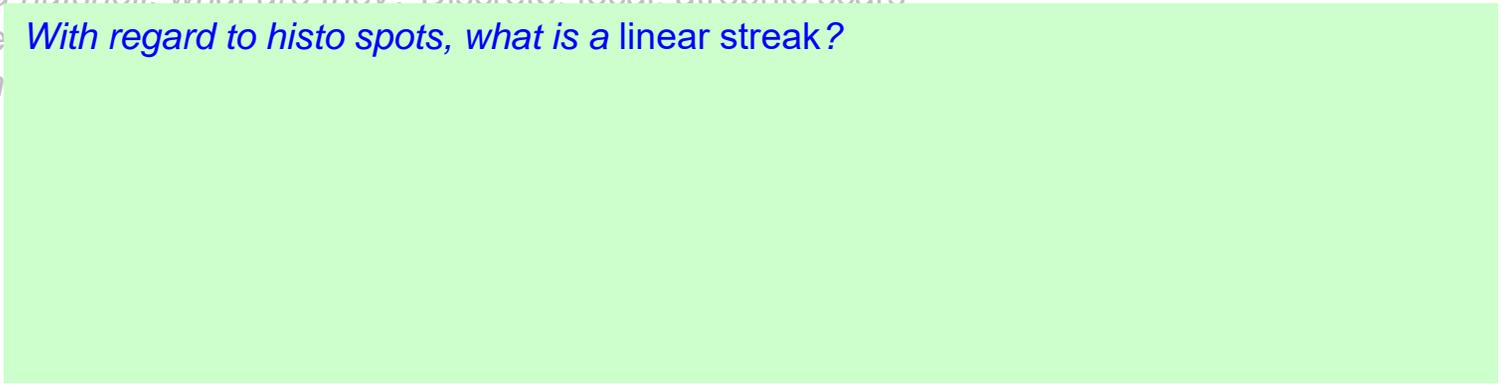
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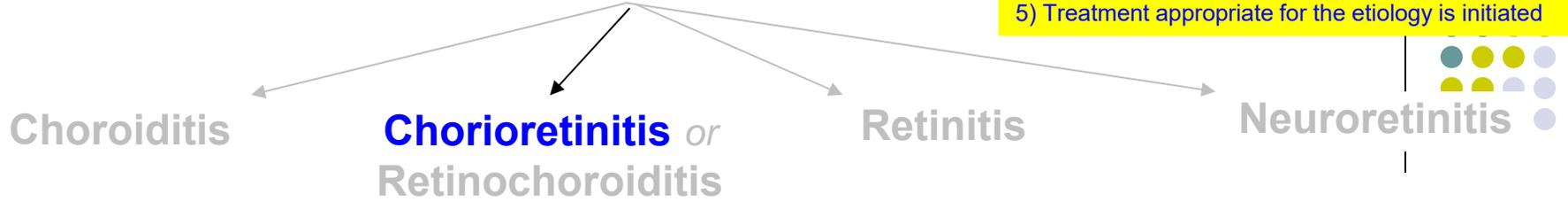
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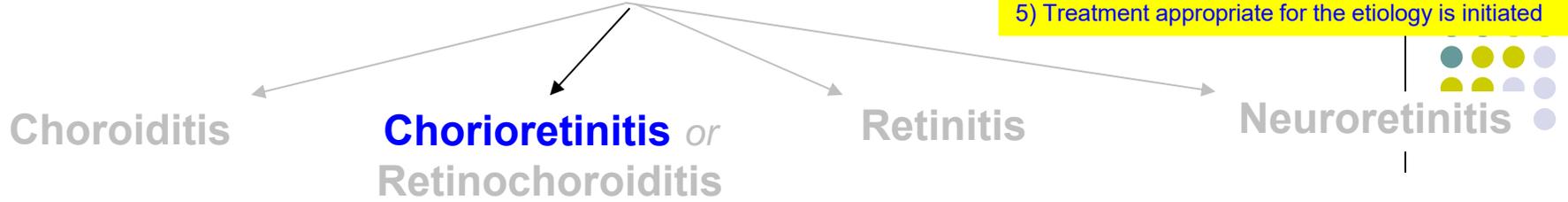
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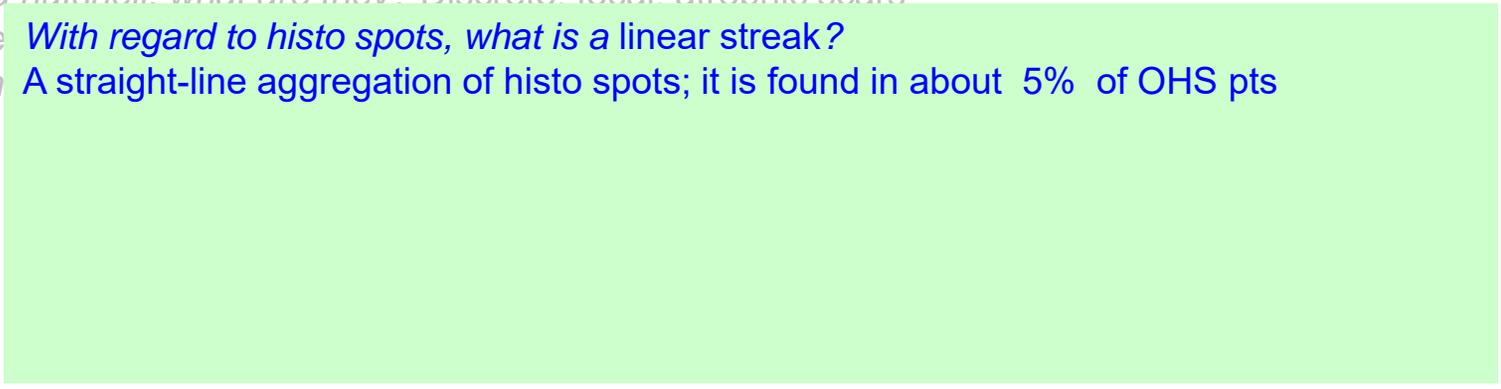
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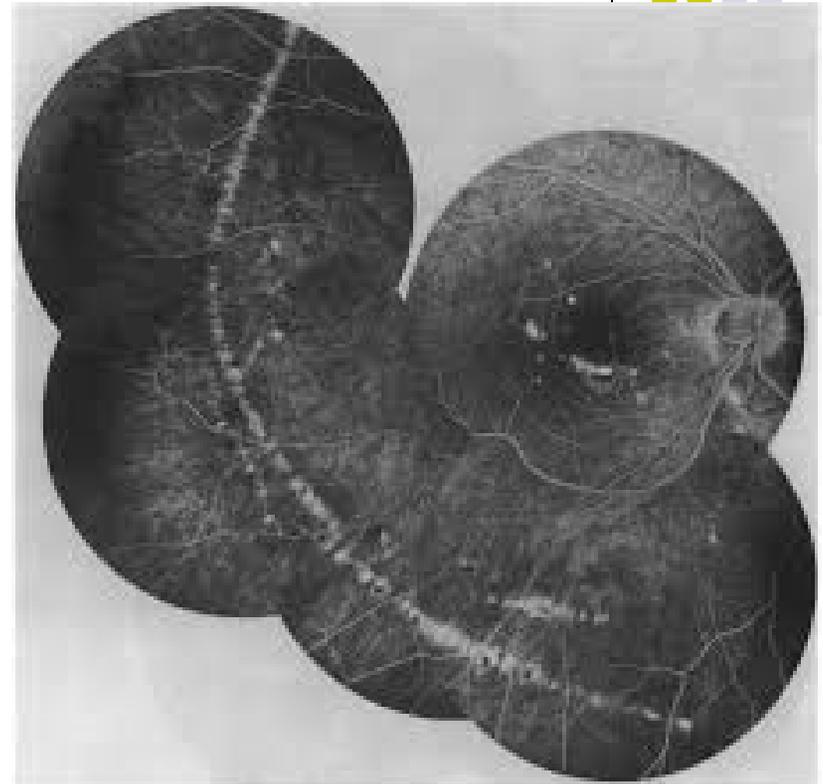
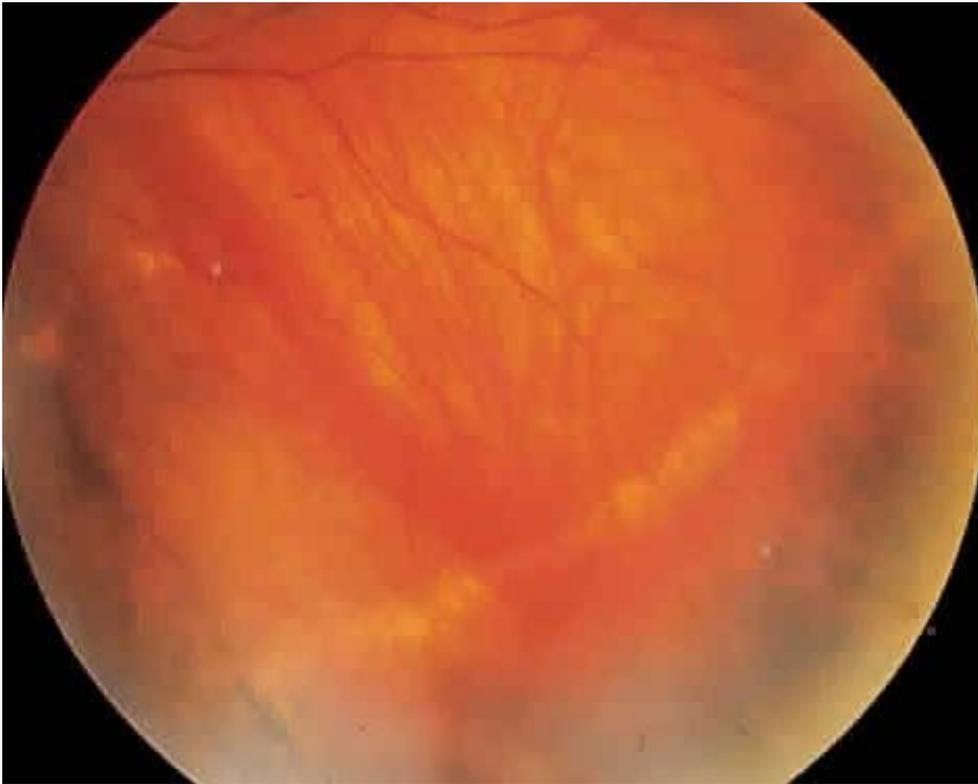
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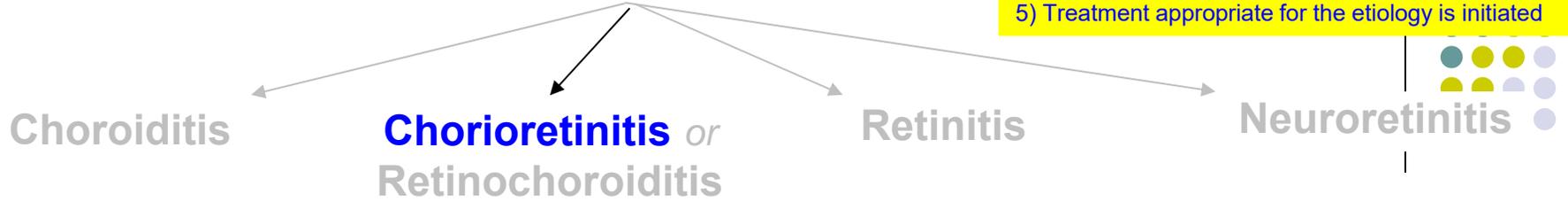




Histo: Linear streaks

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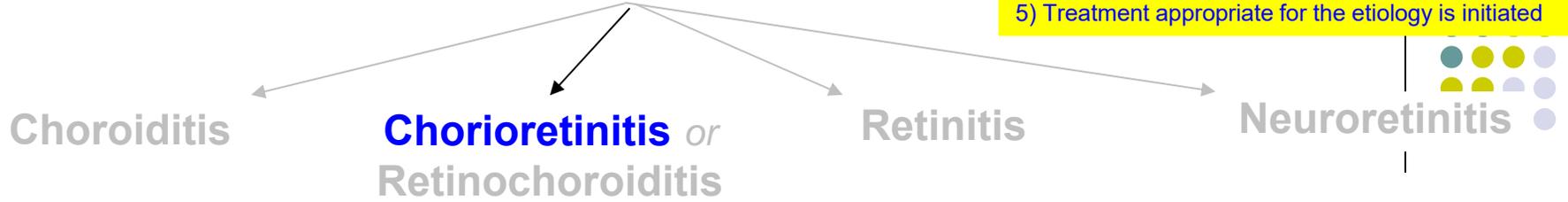
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At what location with the globe are linear streaks found?

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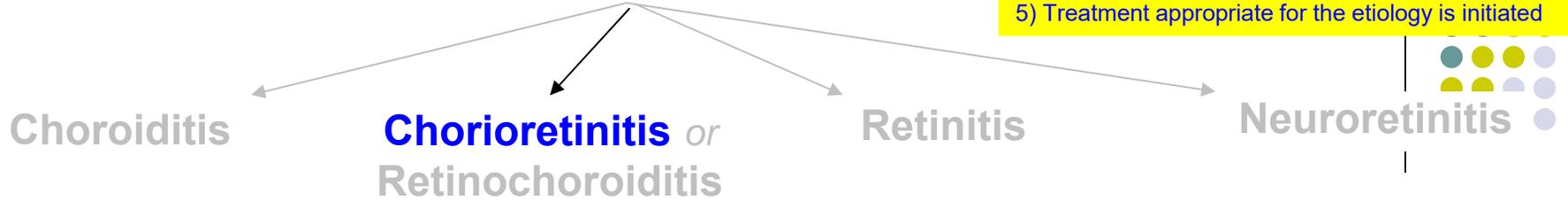
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At what location with the globe are linear streaks found?

At the equator

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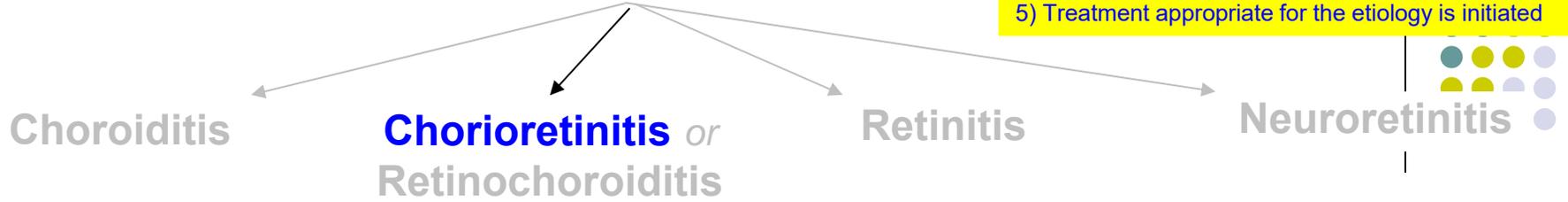
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At the equator

How is the streak oriented; ie, is it parallel, or perpendicular, to the equator of the globe?

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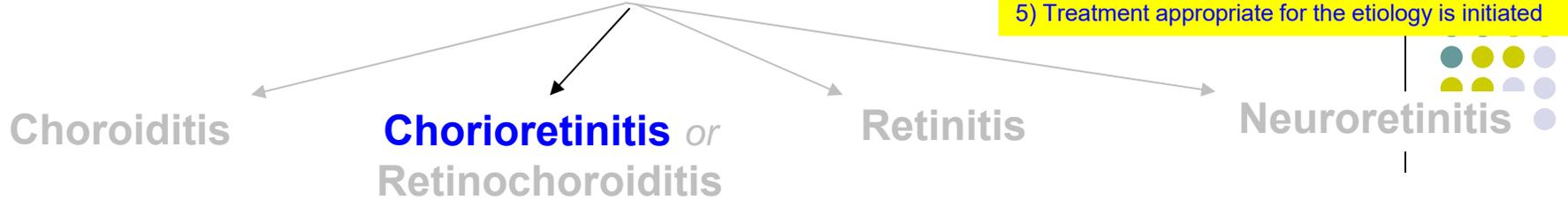
At the equator

How is the streak oriented; ie, is it parallel, or perpendicular, to the equator of the globe?

Parallel

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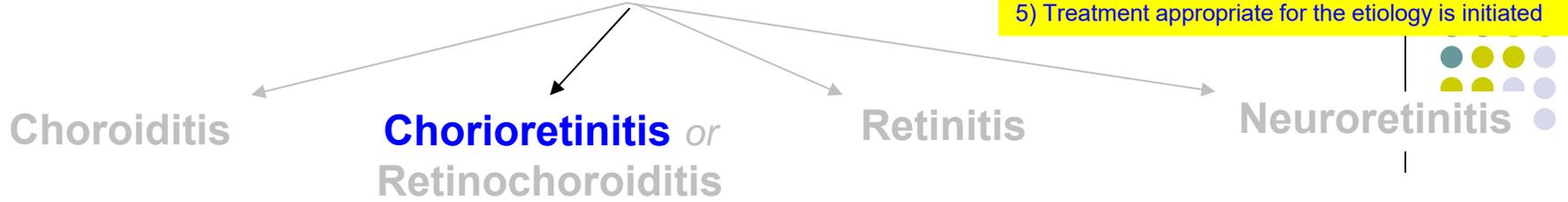
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Do they evolve over time? Generally no

Re the three lesions of OHS: **Peripapillary atrophy**
What specific structure(s) is/are involved?

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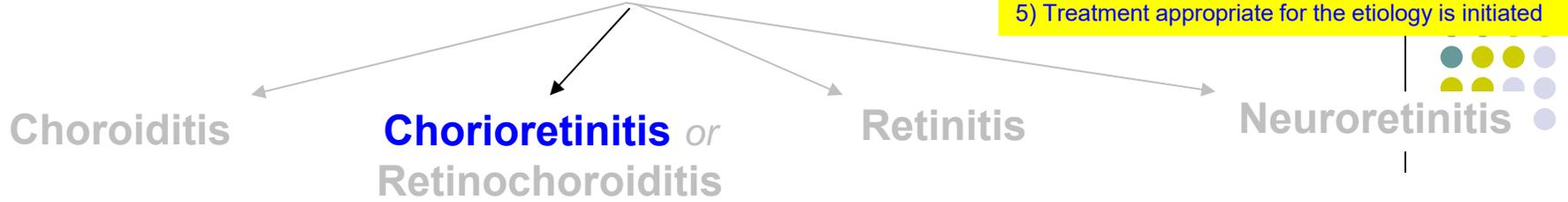
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Re the three lesions of OHS: **Peripapillary atrophy**
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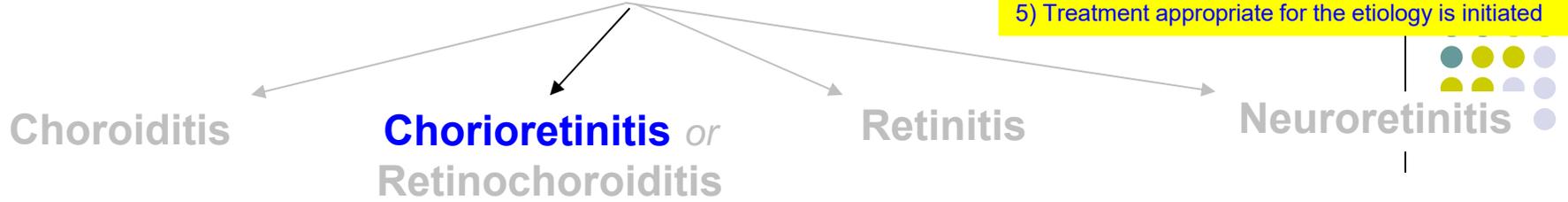
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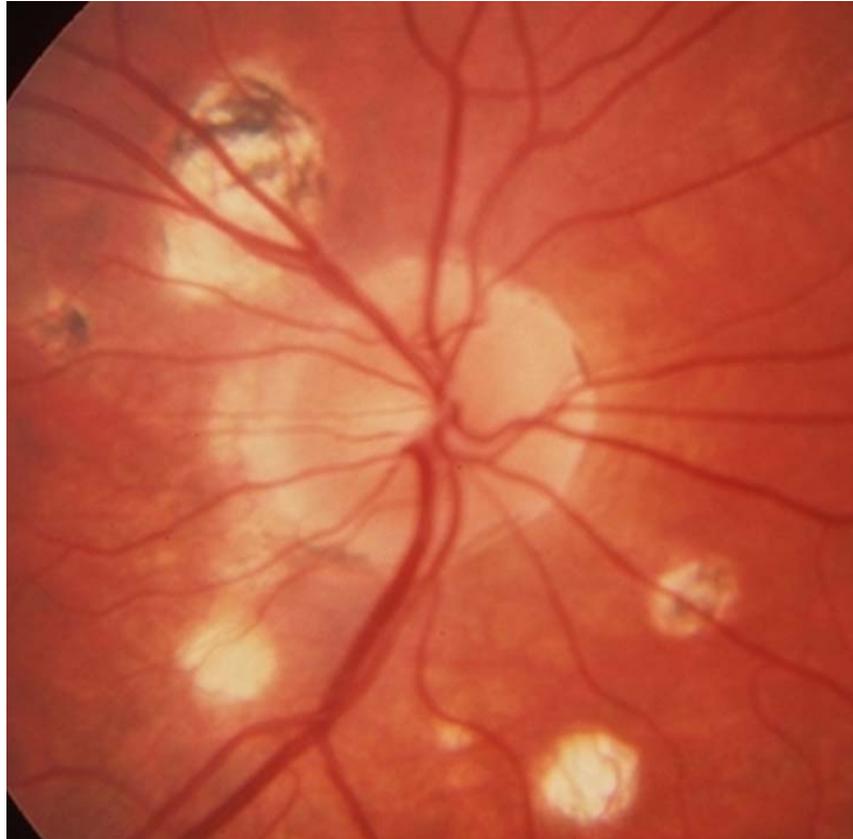
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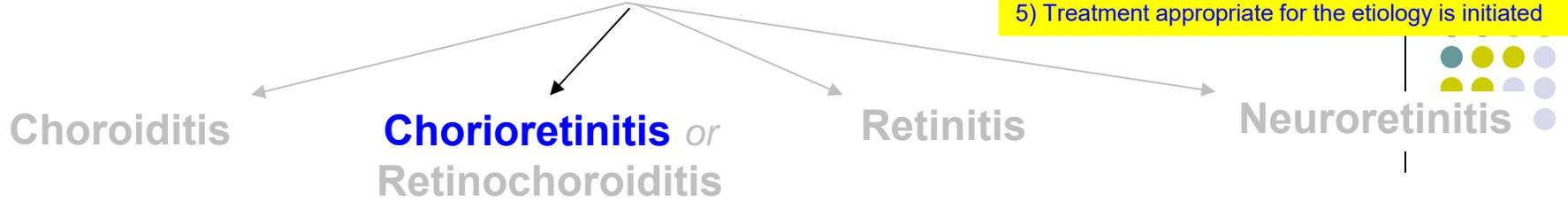
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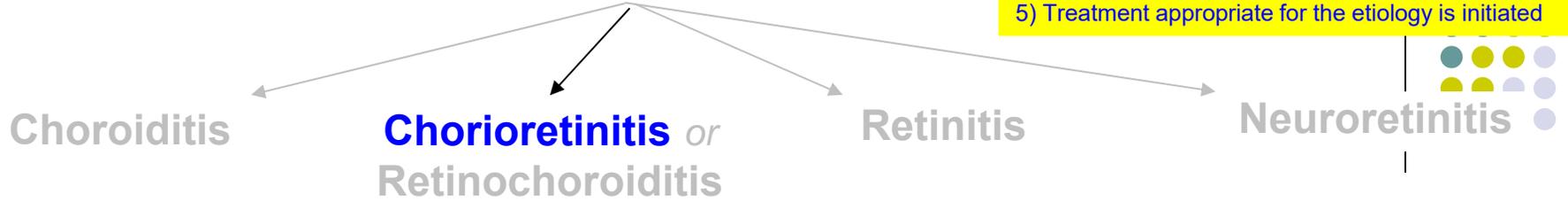
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Re the three lesions of OHS: **Macular disciform lesions**
What specific structure(s) is/are involved?

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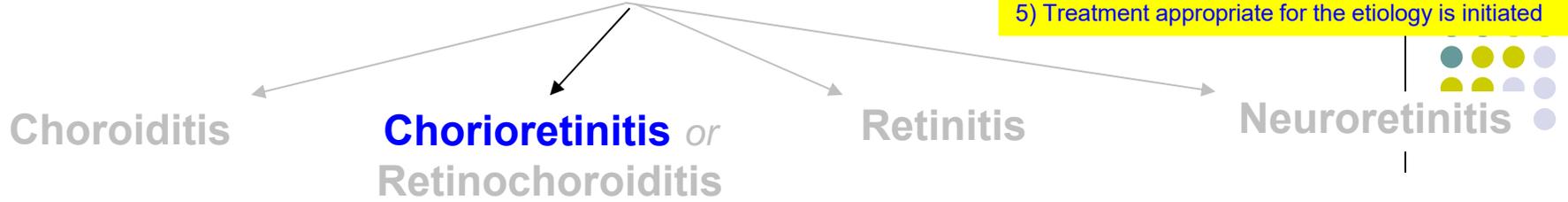
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What specific structure(s) is/are involved? Everything, including a defect in Bruch's membrane

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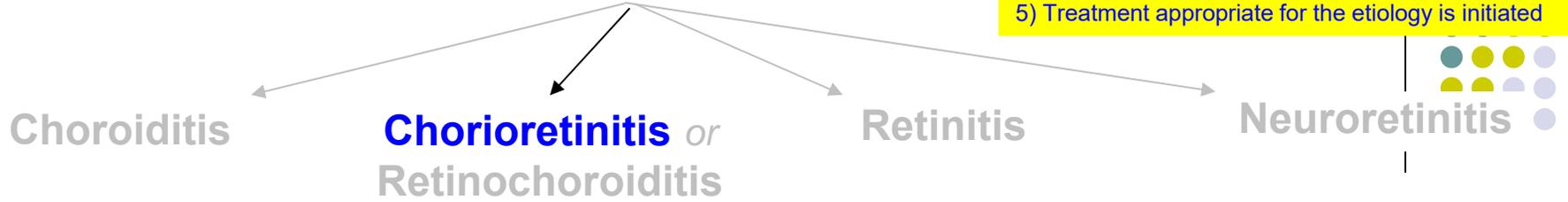
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Are histo spots larger, or smaller than the ONH? Smaller
What two-word phrase is used to describe them? 'Punched out'
Do they evolve over time? Generally no

Re the three lesions of OHS: **Peripapillary atrophy**
What specific structure(s) is/are involved? The inner choroid, RPE and retina
In a nutshell, what are they? Discrete, focal, atrophic scars

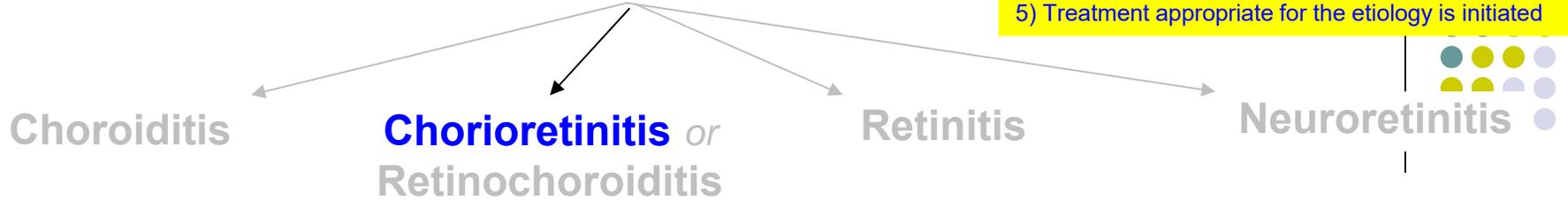
Re the three lesions of OHS: **Macular disciform lesions**
What specific structure(s) is/are involved? Everything, including a defect in Bruch's membrane
In a nutshell, what are they? **Active** lesions represent either the presence of CNVM under the retina, or a hemorrhagic retinal detachment



Histo: Macular disciform lesion

Uveitis: *Posterior*

- 1) The uveitis is profiled
- 2) The profiled case is meshed
- 3) A differential diagnosis list is generated
- 4) Studies are obtained to identify the etiology
- 5) Treatment appropriate for the etiology is initiated



What is the classic posterior manifestation of OHS?
A multifocal chorioretinitis

Re the three lesions of OHS: **Histo spots**
What specific structure(s) is/are involved? The inner choroid +/- the RPE
In a nutshell, what are they? Discrete, focal, atrophic scars
Are histo spots larger, or smaller than the ONH? Smaller
What two-word phrase is used to describe them? 'Punched out'
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Re the three lesions of OHS: **Macular disciform lesions**
What specific structure(s) is/are involved? Everything, including a defect in Bruch's membrane
In a nutshell, what are they? **Active** lesions represent either the presence of CNVM under the retina, or a hemorrhagic retinal detachment. **Inactive** lesions (aka *disciform scars*) are fibrovascular remnants of previous CNVM and/or subretinal hemorrhage.



Histo: Macular disciform lesion



Histo: Macular disciform lesion

Uveitis: **OHS**

Diagnosis

How is the diagnosis of OHS made?

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Uveitis: *OHS*

Diagnosis

How is the diagnosis of OHS made?

It is a clinical diagnosis based on DFE findings

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Uveitis: *OHS*

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Which lesion(s) require treatment?

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Do antifungals play a role in the treatment?

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Why no role for antifungals?

Because there's no evidence to indicate live organisms are present (much less actively contributing to the CNVM process)

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--Intravitreal corticosteroids

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As a loss of 6 or more lines from initial presentation

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There were a number of subgroup analyses in the MPS. Important subgroup analyses were based on:

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--Lesion location

--The specific underlying condition responsible for the CNVM occurrence

--Whether the lesion was new, or recurrent

What treatment modalities are used to treat active disciform lesions?

--**Thermal laser**

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What was the primary endpoint?

Percent of eyes experiencing

How was lesion location defined; ie, in terms of what structure?

There were a number of

--Lesion location

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Argon (**blue-green**) and krypton (**red**)

What was the primary endpoint?

Percent of eyes ex-

How was lesion location defined; ie, in terms of what structure?

With respect to distance from the foveal center

There were a number of factors that influenced the decision:

--Lesion location

--The specific under-

--Whether the lesion

What treatment modalities are used to treat active disciform lesions?

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With respect to distance from the foveal center

There were a number of locations used.

--Lesion location

--The specific under-

--Whether the lesion

Four locations were used. What were they?

-
-
-
-

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--Extrafoveal

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There were a number of subgroup analyses in the MPS. Important subgroup analyses were based on:

--Lesion location

--**The specific underlying condition responsible for the CNVM occurrence**

--Whether the lesion was subfoveal or non-subfoveal

Was OHS one of the CNVM-causing conditions included in the MPS?

What treatment modalities were evaluated?

--**Thermal laser**

--Photodynamic therapy (PDT)

--Anti-VEGF therapy

--Submacular surgery

--Intravitreal corticosteroids

--Combination therapy (of some of the above modalities)

Uveitis: *OHS*

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How is the diagnosis of OHS made?

What landmark clinical study evaluated the use of thermal laser for the treatment of CNVM?

The Macular Photocoagulation Study (MPS)

What two laser modalities were evaluated?

Argon (**blue-green**) and krypton (**red**)

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Is thermal laser still an acceptable treatment for CNVM associated with OHS?

In select pts, yes. If a pt has extrafoveal (or even juxtafoveal) disease, thermal laser is a reasonable option. This is especially the case if the pt is not a good candidate for other treatment modalities.

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What is the basic premise underlying anti-VEGF therapy?

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What does VEGF stand for?

Vascular endothelial growth factor

Broadly, what is it?

A signaling molecule that promotes angiogenesis

What does VEGF have to do with CNVM formation?

It appears to play a vital role in initiation of the CNVM process, and thus provides a target for clinical intervention to interrupt the development of CNVM

What is the basic premise underlying anti-VEGF therapy?

A molecule is introduced into the eye that binds VEGF, thereby preventing it from binding its receptors in the budding CNVM complex

Photodynamic therapy (PDT)

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--Submacular surgery

--Intravitreal corticosteroids

--Combination therapy (of some of the above modalities)

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'VEGF Trap'

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Yes--in fact, most clinicians probably consider it their first-line treatment

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What important clinical trial evaluated submacular surgery for the treatment of disciform lesions?

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At one time, submacular surgery was the only alternative to thermal laser, and thus a more compelling case could be made for its risk/benefit profile (especially with regard to subfoveal lesions). However, the advent of PDT and the development of anti-VEGF therapies have rendered submacular surgery considerably less popular.

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That said, in certain very select clinical situations (eg, a large peripapillary CNVM), and if other treatment modalities have proven ineffective, submacular surgery would be a reasonable option to consider.

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Corticosteroids are anti-inflammatory meds. What role does inflammation play in CNVM?

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Is corticosteroid therapy an acceptable treatment for CNVM associated with OHS?

Absent highly extenuating circumstances, few if any clinicians would advocate for using steroids as a first-line treatment. However, they do have a role as an adjunctive therapy in combination with other treatments.

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--Combination therapy (of some of the above modalities)

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Which lesion(s) require treatment?

Active disciform lesions

Do antifungals play a role in the treatment?

No

Is there any treatment known to reduce the risk of developing disciform lesions?

No

What treatment modalities are used to treat active disciform lesions?

-- *Which combinations seem to show particular promise?*

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-- Anti-VEGF + PDT

-- Anti-VEGF + thermal laser

-- PDT + corticosteroids

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