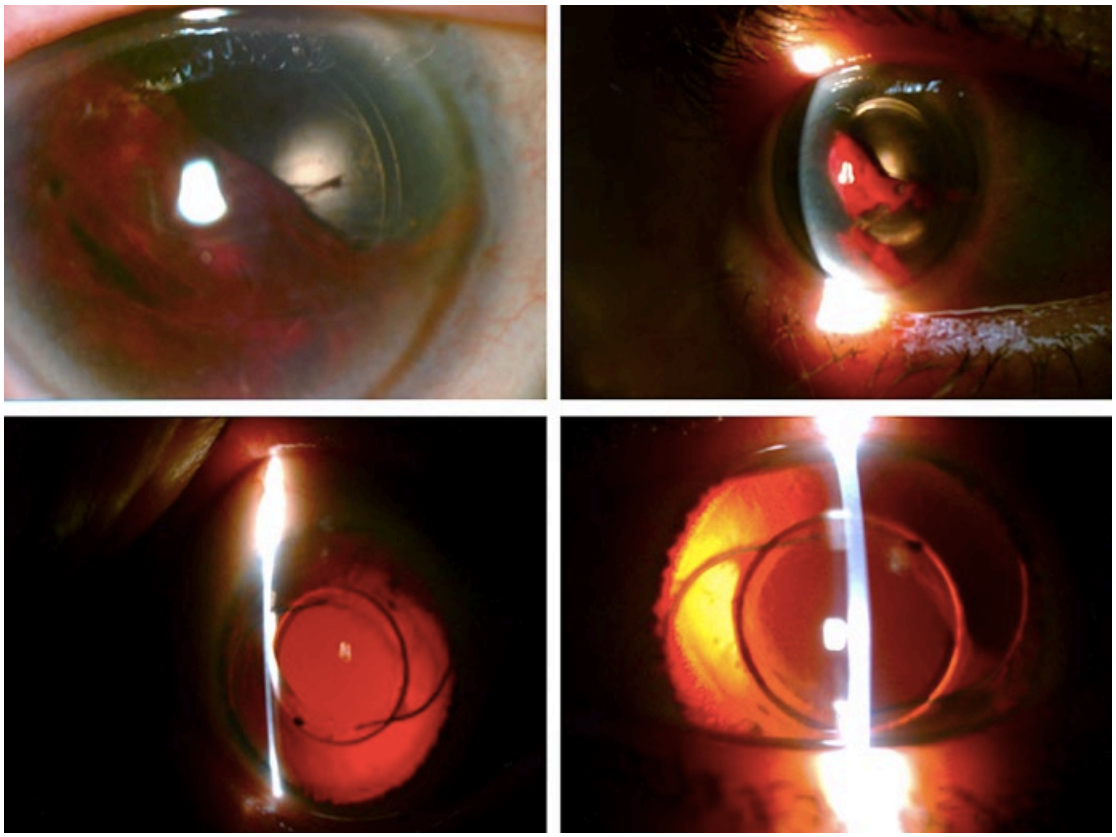
MYSTERY IMAGE

BLINK

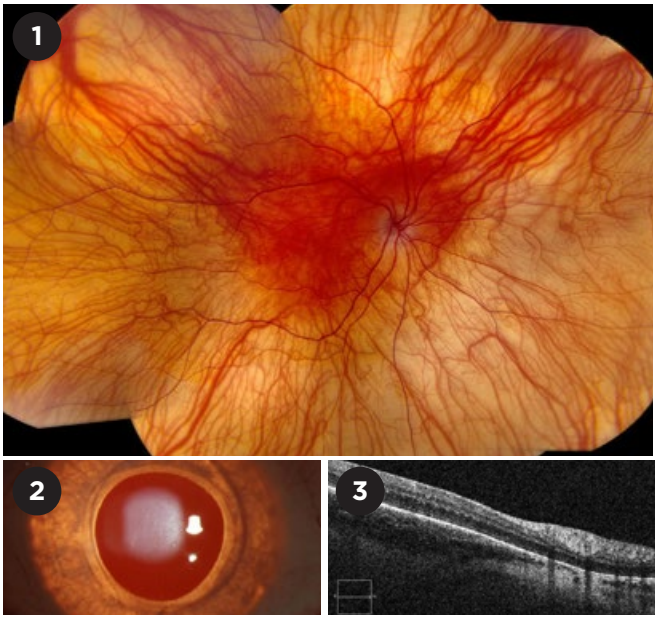


Henry D. Perry, MD, Ophthalmic Consultants of Long Island, Rockville Centre, N.Y.

WHAT IS THIS MONTH'S MYSTERY CONDITION? *Join the conversation at aao.org/eyenet, where you can post a comment on this image.*

LAST MONTH'S BLINK

Albinism



A 47-year-old woman underwent a routine ophthalmic evaluation for diabetic eye disease. She reported suffering from poor visual acuity and light sensitivity her entire life, but she had no recent changes in vision. The general physical examination revealed white hair and pale skin. Her best-corrected visual acuity measured 20/400 OU, and she had horizontal nystagmus. Color photographs of the fundus revealed an absence of pigmentation, and the choroidal vessels were easily visualized (Fig. 1). The slit-lamp examination showed hypopigmentation of the iris with transillumination throughout (Fig. 2). The fovea could not be found on optical coherence tomography scanning (Fig 3).

A more detailed medical history confirmed that the patient had oculocutaneous albinism. This autosomal recessive condition, characterized by decreased synthesis of melanin, affects 1 in 20,000 people. Ocular abnormalities are often noted at birth but remain stable throughout life.

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