Cataracts Associated with Trauma or Radiation

- Cataracts associated with blunt trauma are often stellate or rosette initially, but may progress to

  type/configuration

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  two words
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Can blunt-trauma-induced cataract resolve spontaneously?
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Can blunt-trauma-induced cataract resolve spontaneously? It can—albeit only rarely, and only if the trauma was mild.
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What is the eponym for the ring of pupillary-ruff pigment on the anterior capsule seen in conjunction with blunt-trauma cataracts? A: Vossius ring
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A Vossius ring.
Cataracts Associated with Trauma or Radiation

Vossius ring: Tennis ball vs eye
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Is a Vossius ring visually significant in and of itself?
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No. But while not visually significant, it is most assuredly **clinically** significant.
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A **Vossius ring**

*Is a Vossius ring visually significant in and of itself?*

No. But while not visually significant, it is most assuredly **clinically** significant.

*Why is that?*

Because it signifies that the eye in question has experienced significant trauma, and thus is at much greater risk for intra- and post-operative complications.
Cataracts Associated with Blunt Trauma or Radiation

- Cataracts associated with blunt trauma are...
Cataracts Associated with Trauma or Radiation

Cataracts associated with blunt trauma are often stellate or rosette initially, but may progress to total opacification.

What is the eponym for the ring of pupillary-ruff pigment on the anterior capsule seen in conjunction with blunt-trauma cataracts? Vossius ring

In addition to cataract formation, what other serious lens-related sequelae often follows blunt trauma to the eye?
Lens subluxation or dislocation

What lens-related sign is very worrisome for zonular disruption secondary to trauma?
Phacodonesis

A similar trauma-induced tremulousness may be observed in the iris. What is it called? Iridodonesis

Is it also associated with lens subluxation secondary to blunt ocular trauma?
Yes
Cataracts Associated with Trauma or Radiation

Traumatic cataract with subluxation
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To what does the term phacodonesis refer?
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To what does the term phacodonesis refer? A visible tremulousness of the lens in response to eye movements.
Cataracts Associated with Trauma or Radiation

**Cataracts associated with blunt trauma**

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- Is exposure to radiation associated with cataract formation?
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Which of the following forms of radiation cause cataracts?

- Ionizing:
  - Charged particle:
  - Infrared:
  - UV:
  - Microwave:
Is exposure to radiation associated with cataract formation? Yes

Which of the following forms of radiation cause cataracts?
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In what situation is one most likely to be exposed to ionizing radiation?
- During an X-ray

What is the temporal relationship between exposure to ionizing radiation and subsequent cataract development?
- Delays of up to 20 years would not be unusual
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How sensitive is the lens to ionizing radiation?

Extremely so, probably more so than the other forms of radiation

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You mean one XR can cause a cataract?! Not hardly, no

OK then, give me some perspective—how many CXR's worth of ionizing radiation would it take to cause a cataract?

About 200 (at least)
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In what situation is the lens most likely to be exposed to charged-particle radiation?
Q/A

Cataracts Associated with Trauma or Radiation

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During treatment for a choroidal melanoma
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In what situation is one most likely to be exposed to infrared radiation?
- If one works in a foundry
- By what occupation-related name is this sort of cataract known?
  - 'Glassblower’s cataract’
  - Exfoliation

Cataracts Associated with Trauma or Radiation
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By what occupation-related name is this sort of cataract known?
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Prior to the development of a cataract, chronic exposure to intense infrared radiation can cause what striking change to the lens?

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It can cause the outer layer of the anterior capsule to peel off in a scroll-like manner

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What is the name for this process?
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Cataracts Associated with Trauma or Radiation

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Ah—so this is the same process that occurs in pseudoexfoliation syndrome (PXS)?
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What is the name for this process?
‘Exfoliation’

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Not really. The fibrillar material in PXS is not actually exfoliated—hence the name, pseudoexfoliation. In contrast, infrared radiation exposure causes true exfoliation.

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What's with the 'Yeah, but…'?
Is exposure to radiation associated with cataract formation? Yes

Which of the following forms of radiation cause cataracts?
- Ionizing: Most definitely
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What's with the ‘Yeah, but…’? This sort of cataract has become quite rare (to put it mildly)
Cataracts Associated with Trauma or Radiation

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In what situation is one most likely to be exposed to UV radiation?

**UV: Maybe**

Microwave: Eh
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In what situation is one most likely to be exposed to UV radiation?
Being outside, during the daytime

UV: **Maybe**
Microwave: Eh
Is exposure to radiation associated with cataract formation? Yes

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In what situation is one most likely to be exposed to UV radiation?
Being outside, during the daytime

Other than becoming a vampire, what can be done to avoid exposing the lens to UV radiation?

UV: Maybe
Microwave: Eh
Is exposure to radiation associated with cataract formation? Yes

Which of the following forms of radiation cause cataracts? Ionizing: Most definitely, Charged particle: Yes, Infrared: Yeah, but..., UV: Maybe, Microwave: Eh

In what situation is one most likely to be exposed to UV radiation? Being outside, during the daytime

Other than becoming a vampire, what can be done to avoid exposing the lens to UV radiation? Wear UV-blocking sunglasses, and/or a hat with a visor

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Other than becoming a vampire, what can be done to avoid exposing the lens to UV radiation?
Wear UV-blocking sunglasses, and/or a hat with a visor

What's with the 'Maybe'?
It's estimated that UV radiation only accounts for about 10% of the risk for developing a cataract.
Is exposure to radiation associated with cataract formation? Yes

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*What’s with the ‘Eh’?*
While microwaves have been demonstrated to cause cataracts in animal models, the evidence of an effect on humans is far from conclusive.