

Congenital Syphilis

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 most common ocular manifestation of congenital syphilis?

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What is the most common ocular manifestation of congenital syphilis? Interstitial keratitis

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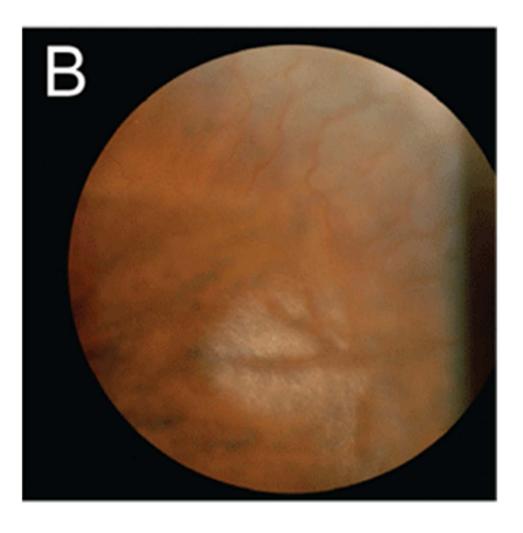
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Congenital syphilis: IK: Active inflammation (the white material is perivascular leukocytic 'cuffing')

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Around age 9

Days? Weeks? Months?

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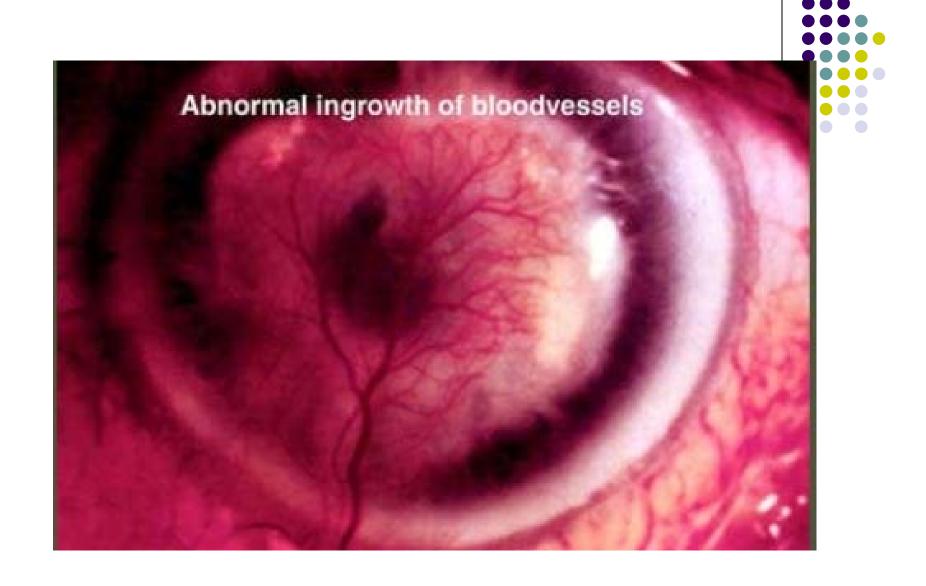
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As the disease progresses, deep stromal vessels appear and make their way toward the central cornea. If/when the stromal vascularization is particularly dense and the blood flow is exuberant, the resulting color of the cornea has been likened to that of salmon.



Congenital syphilis: IK: Active inflammation: Salmon patch

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and/or

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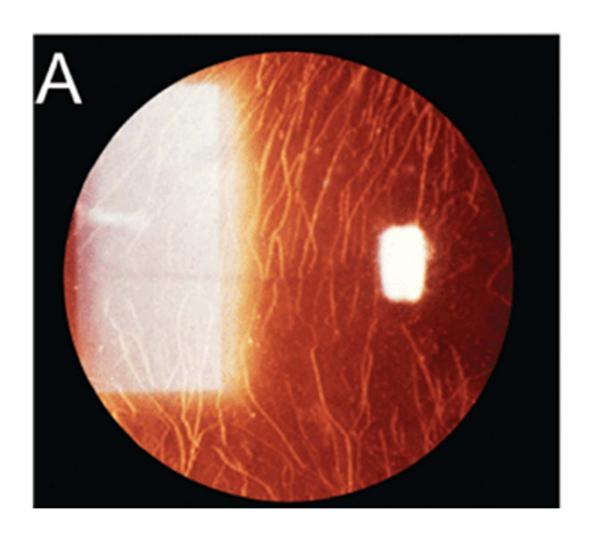
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Congenital syphilis: IK: Ghost vessels





Congenital syphilis: IK: Corneal scar/haze

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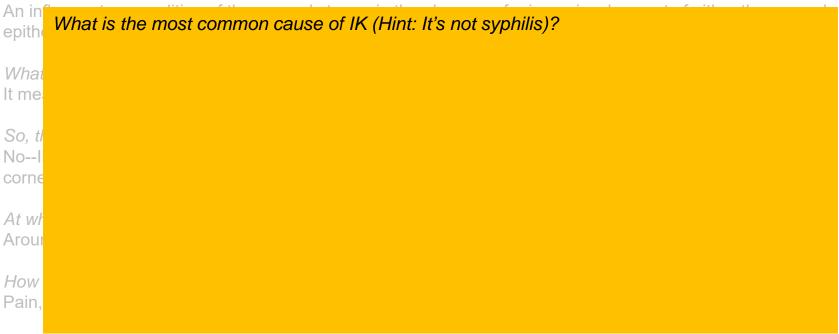
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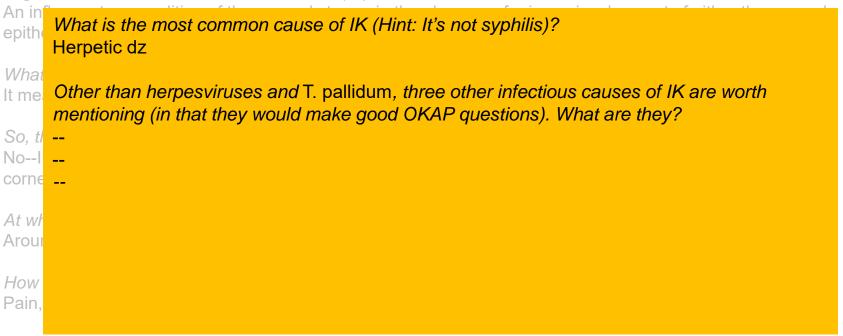
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Two manifestations are common:



--a two words -like presentation:

abb. + word

two words

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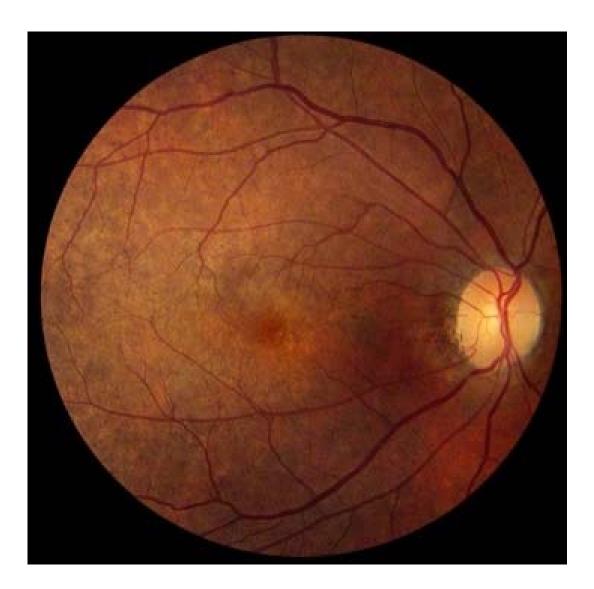


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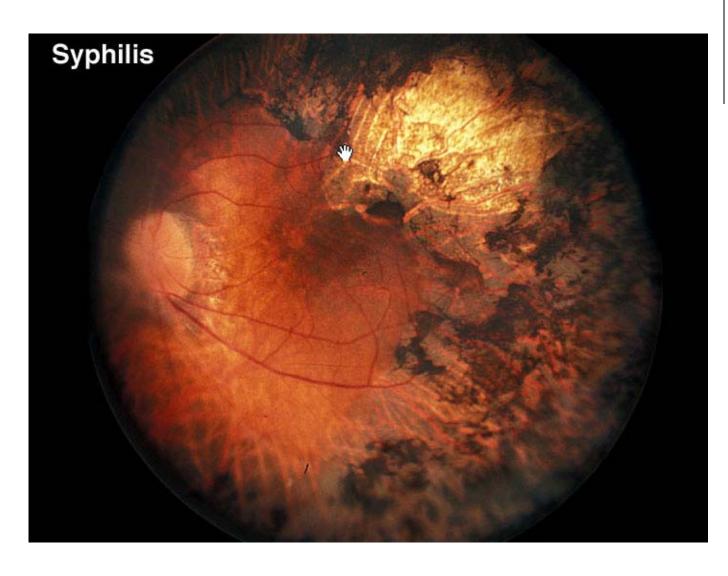
- --a salt-and-pepper retinopathy
- --a retinitis pigmentosa (RP)-like presentation: ONH pallor, arteriolar narrowing, RPE clumping





Syphilis: Salt-and-pepper retinopathy





Syphilis: RP-like fundus changes

Congenital Syphilis

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What about in the posterior pole?

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Rubella

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'Rhagades'





Congenital syphilis: Circumoral scars

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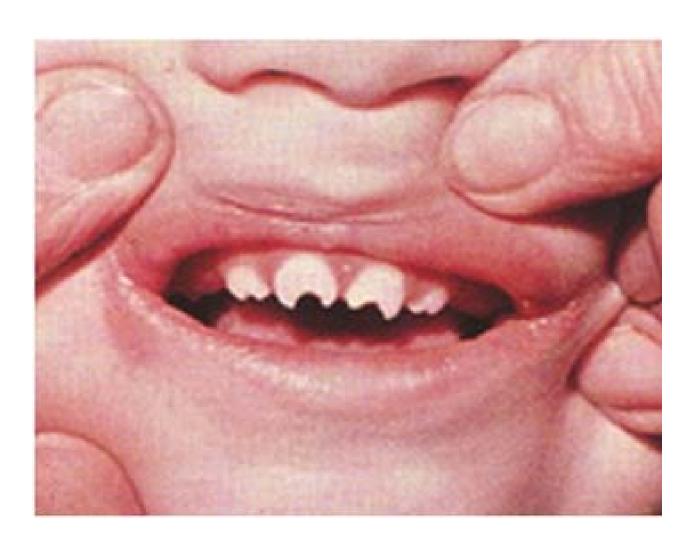
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Why saber shins; ie, to what does this term refer?

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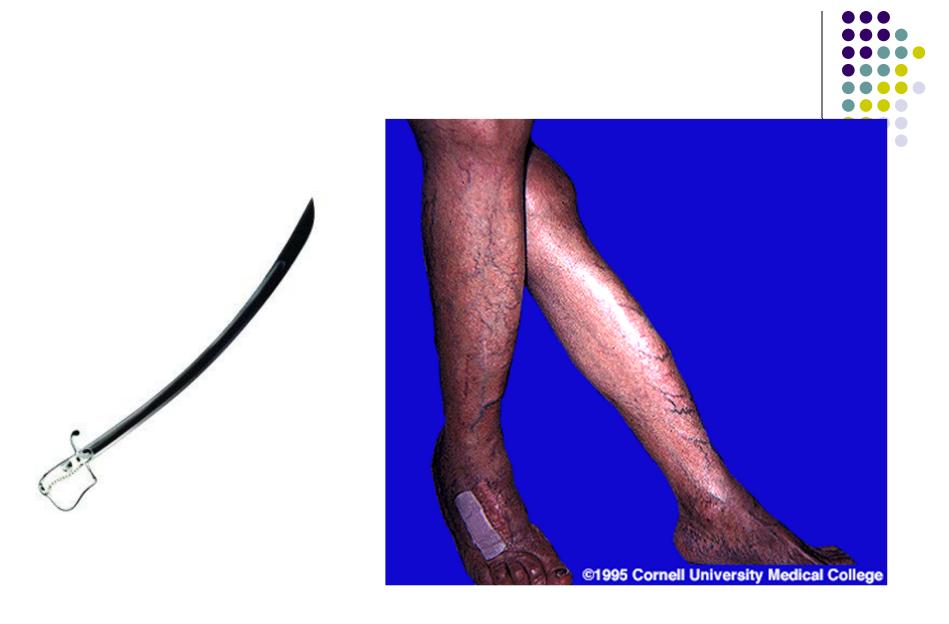
What are the classic nonocular findings associated with congenital syphilis?

- --Circumoral scars
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--Saber shins

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Why saber shins; ie, to what does this term refer? It refers to the fact that the tibia of congenital-syphilis pts tend to be shaped like a saber, a type of sword (Google it)



Congenital syphilis: Saber shins

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In the context of congenital syphilis, what three findings constitute **Hutchinson's triad**?

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Recall that Cogan's syndrome is marked by IK and CN8 dysfunction. If a pt presents with both of these, how can you determine whether they have Cogan's syndrome vs congenital syphilis?

1)

2)

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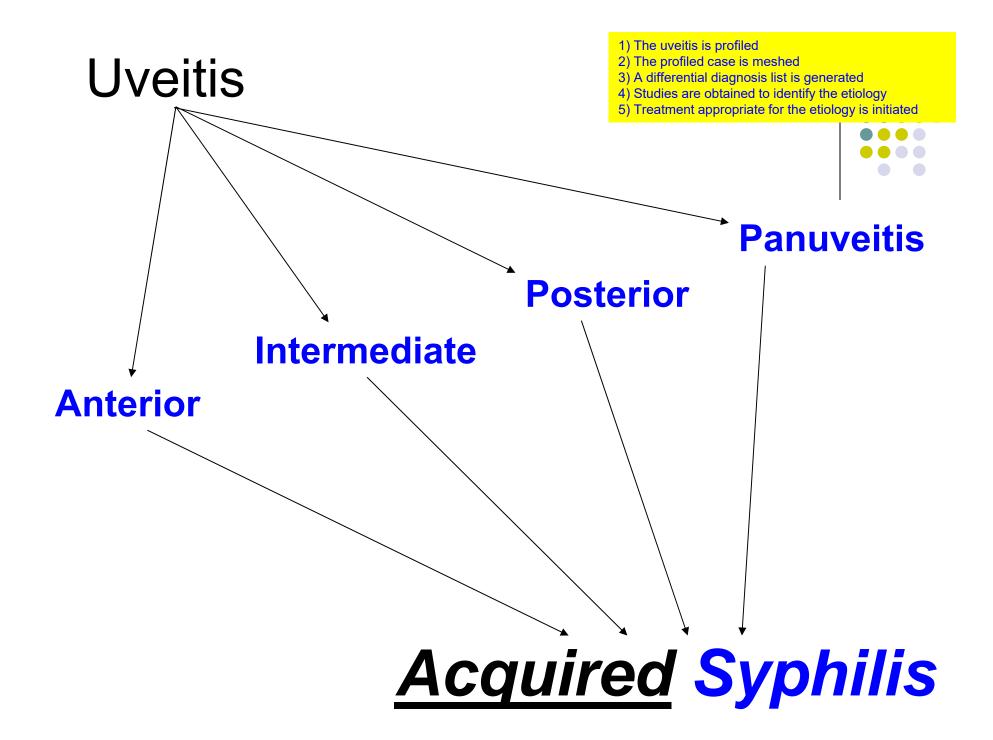
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Acquired Syphilis: Overview

Syphilis infection passes through four stages--what are they?

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- __
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Acquired Syphilis: Overview

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- --Secondary syphilis
- --Latency period
- -- Tertiary syphilis

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How much time typically passes between inoculation and the onset of primary syphilis?

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Syphilis infection passes through four stages--what are they?

(~3 weeks post inoculation)

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Syphilis infection passes through four stages--what are they? How do they manifest? (~3 weeks post inoculation)

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How long does it take to resolve? Up to 3 months or so

Acquired Syphilis: Overview

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- --Primary syphilis is characterized by...the appearance of a chancre at the site of inoculation

 How much time typically passes between resolution of the chancre and the onset of secondary syphilis?

 --Secondary syphilis
- --Latency period
- -- Tertiary syphilis

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one word

and a

two words

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Two areas of the body are particularly prone to development of the rash--what are they?

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Two areas of the body are particularly prone to development of the rash--what are they? The palms and soles





Syphilis

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What portion of untreated secondary syphilis cases go on to develop tertiary syphilis?

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What portion of untreated secondary syphilis cases go on to develop tertiary syphilis? About 1/3

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- --Tertiary syphilis

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What are gummas?

Benign inflammatory tumors--granulomas, essentially

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They can be found anywhere but have a predilection

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What are gummas?

Benign inflammatory tumors--granulomas, essentially

Where are they located?

They can be found anywhere but have a predilection for the liver and the skin



Tertiary syphilis: Gummas



Tertiary syphilis: Ulcerated gumma

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What is the feared, life-threatening sequelae of syphilitic aortitis?

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What is the feared, life-threatening sequelae of syphilitic aortitis? Formation of an aortic aneurysm





Tertiary syphilis: Aortic aneurysm

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- --They are small
- --They are irregular





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- ----Neurosyphilis tabes dorsalis including Argyll-Robertson pupils

What is tabes dorsalis?

A degenerative neurologic condition characterized by a variety of sensory and motor abnormalities

What are some of the 'non A-R pupils' findings of tabes dorsalis?

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Acquired Syphilis: Overview

- 1) The uveitis is profiled
- 2) The profiled case is meshed
- 3) A differential diagnosis list is generated
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Syphilis infection passes through four stages--what are they? How do they manifest? (~3 weeks post inoculation)

- --Primary syphilis is characterized by...the appearance of a chancre at the site of inoculation (~6 to 8 weeks after chancre resolution)
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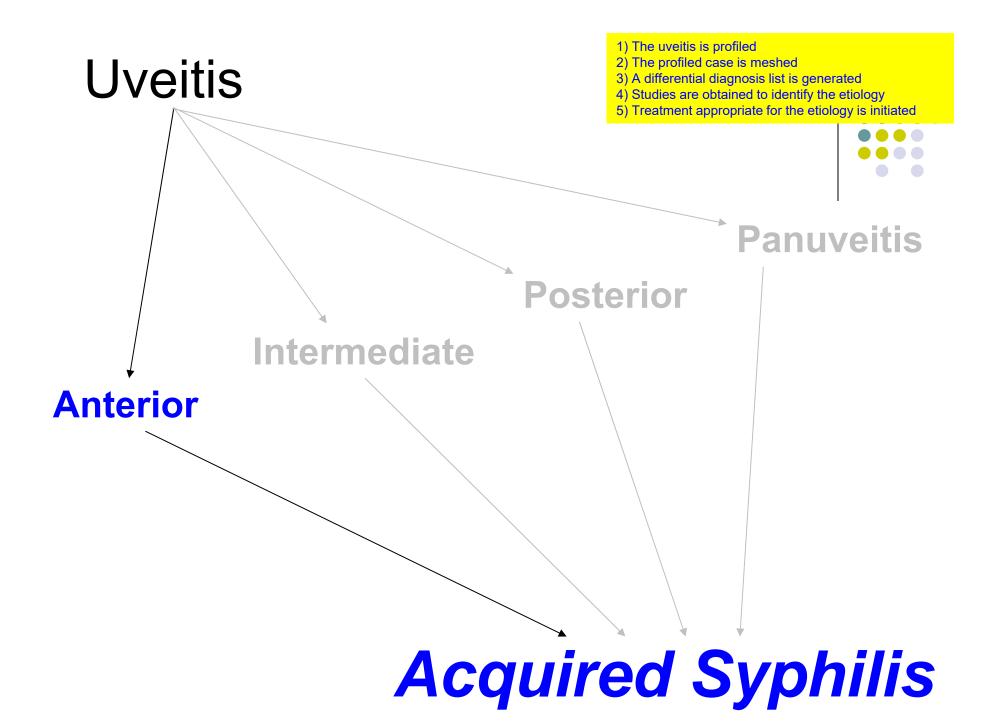


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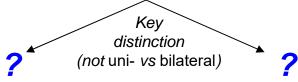
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At which stage can/does uveitis occur?

Any stage. That said, uveitis in a pt with serologic evidence of untreated syphilis should be considered neurosyphilis until proven otherwise.



Uveitis: Anterior



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Uveitis: Anterior

Granulomatous

Key
distinction
(not uni- vs bilateral)

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Nongranulomatous



Uveitis: Anterior

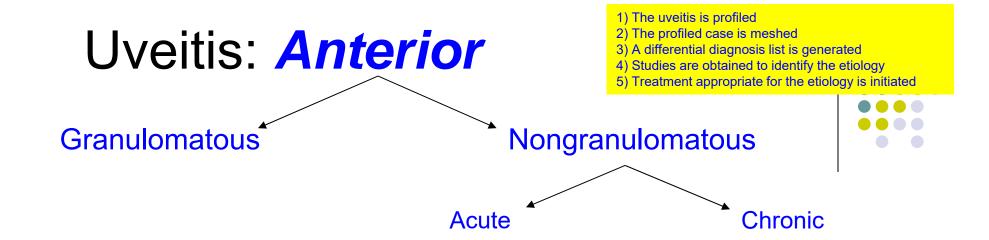
Granulomatous

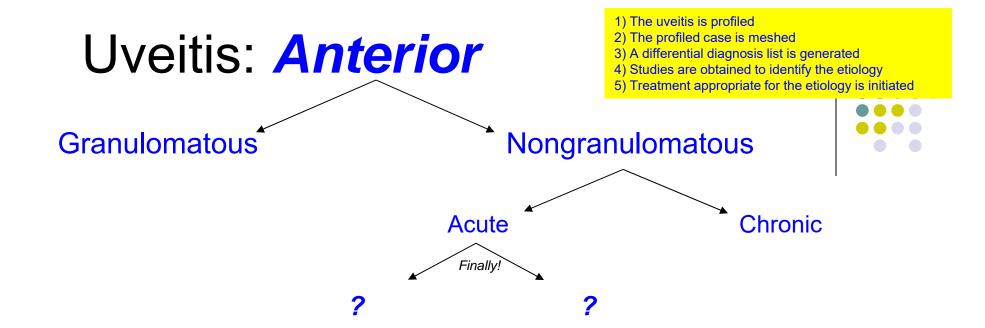
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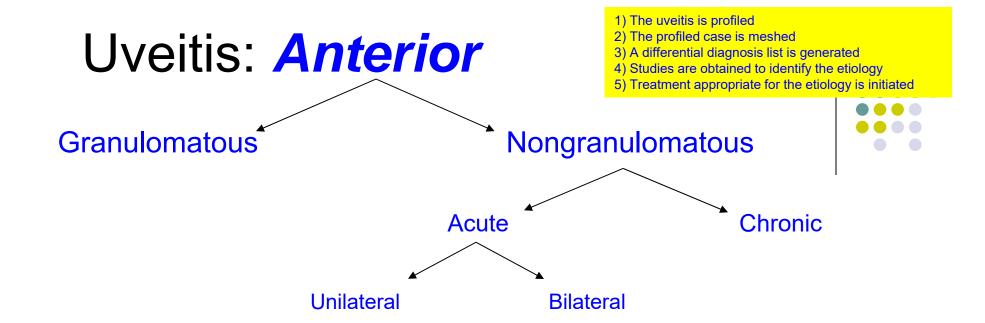
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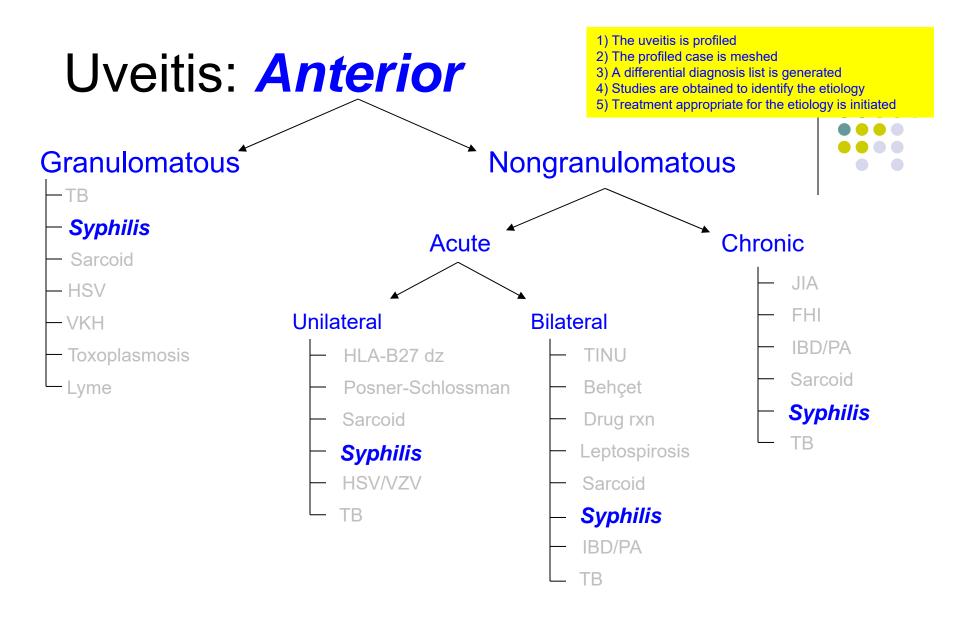
Key distinction (not uni- vs bilateral)



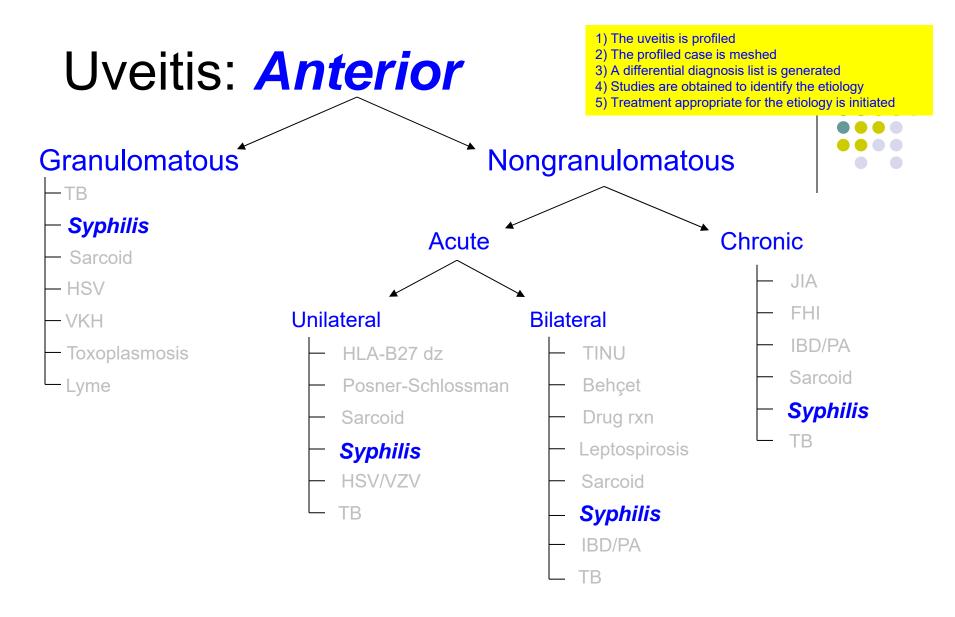




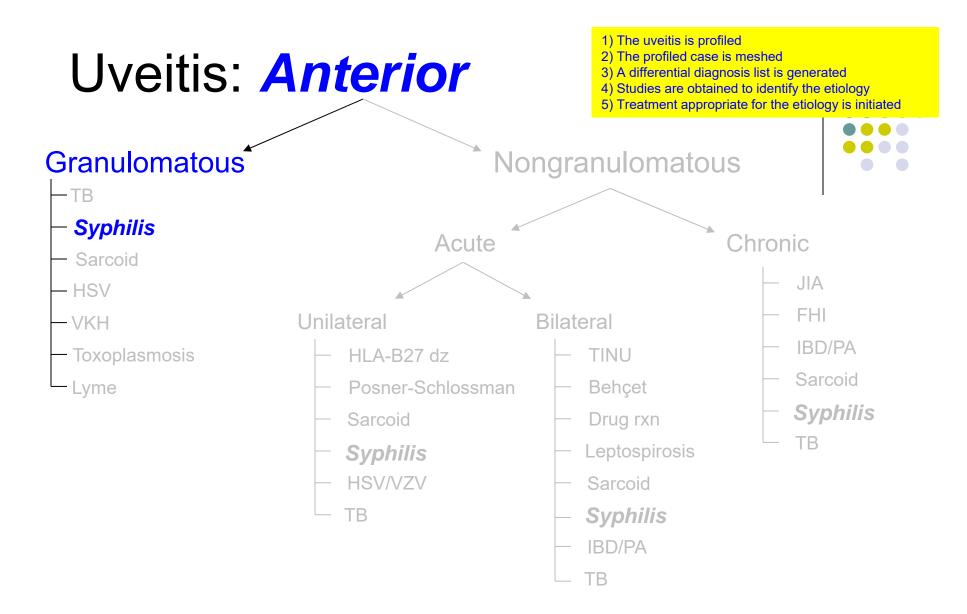




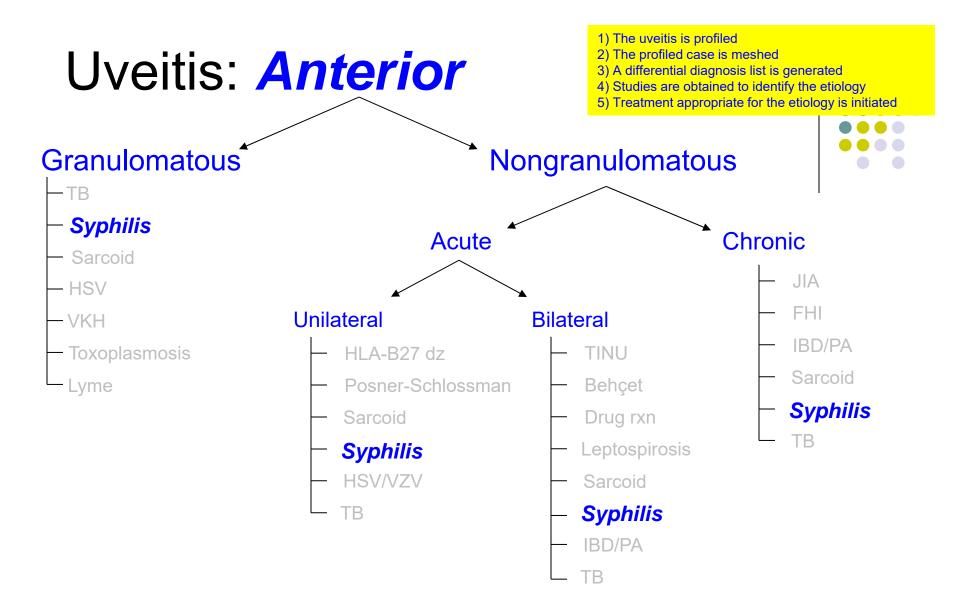
Bear in mind, acquired syphilis can present as any form of anterior uveitis!



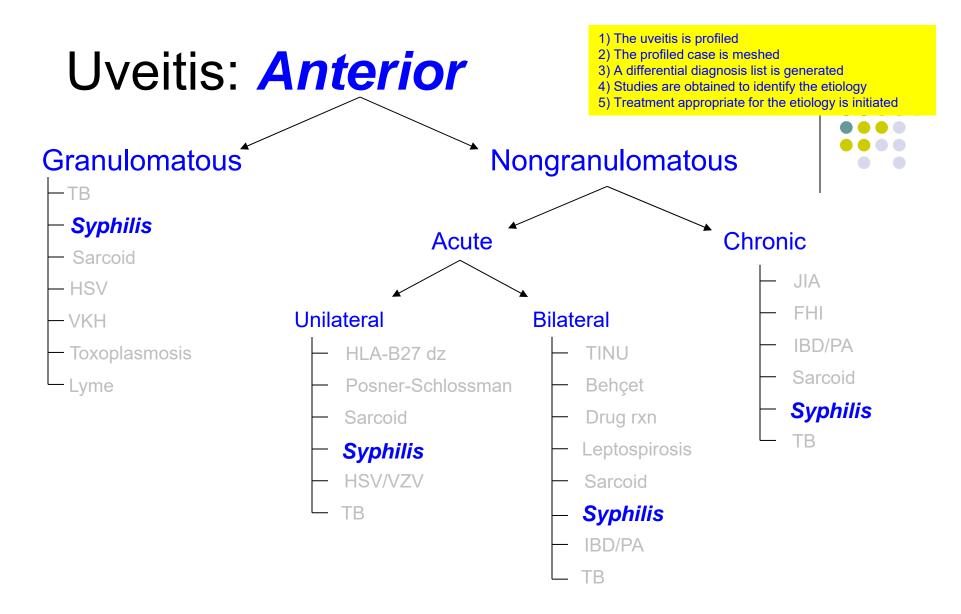
Is syphilitic anterior uveitis more likely to present granulomatously, or nongranulomatously?



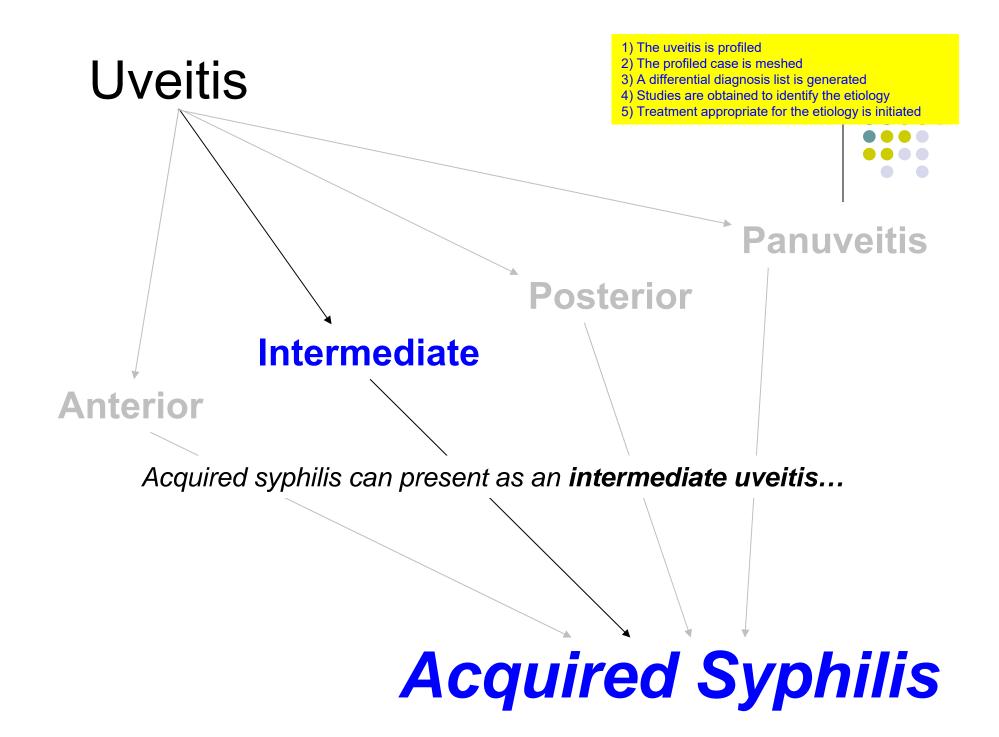
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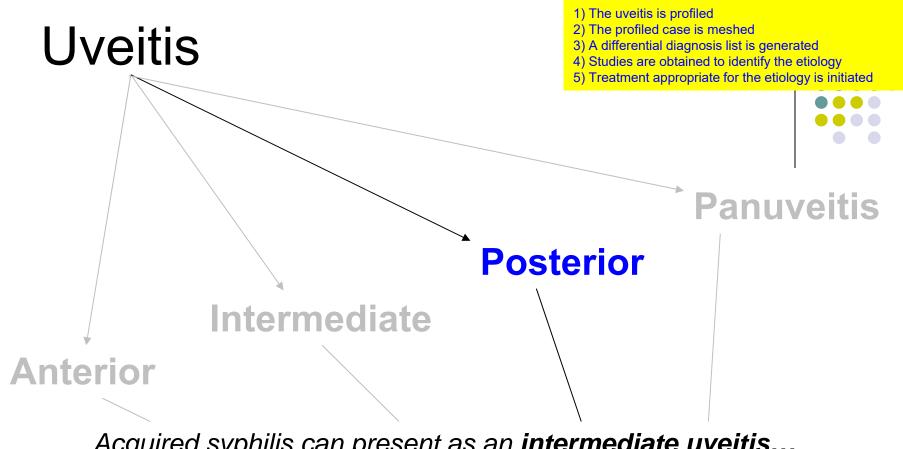


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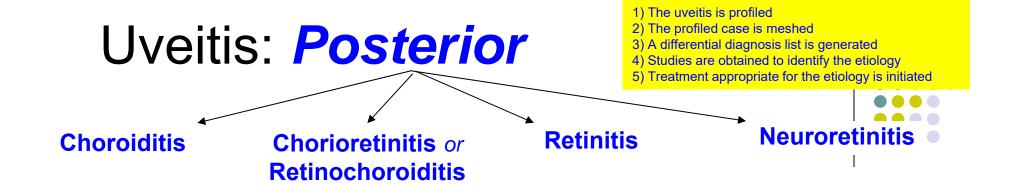
Is syphilitic anterior uveitis more likely to present unilaterally, or bilaterally? Again, the BCSC book does not address this question, but other sources suggest it is about **50:50**

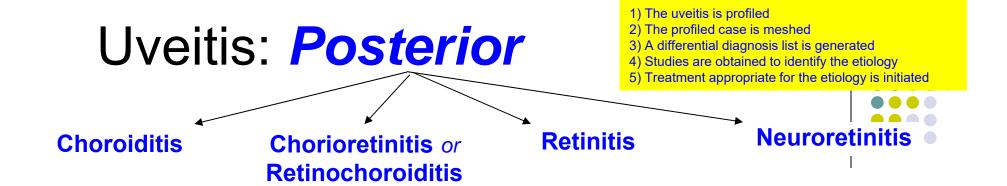




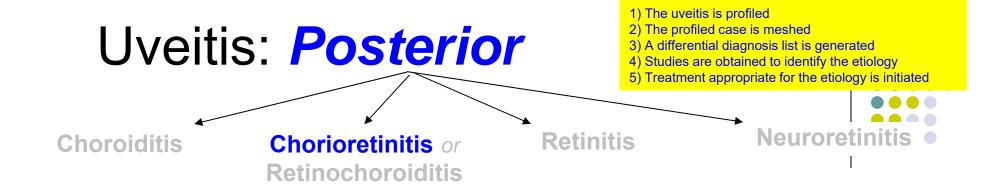
Acquired syphilis can present as an **intermediate uveitis...**And as any form of **posterior uveitis** as well.



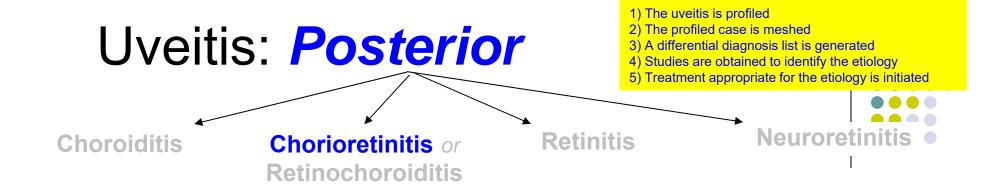




What is the **most common** posterior manifestation?

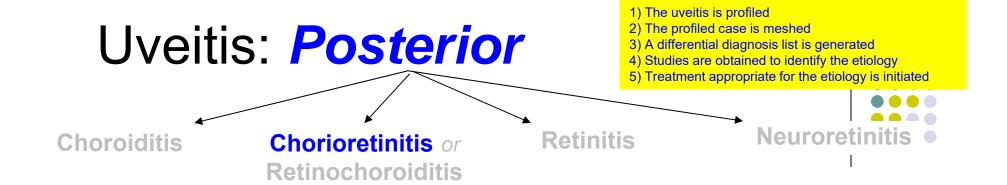


What is the **most common** posterior manifestation? Chorioretinitis



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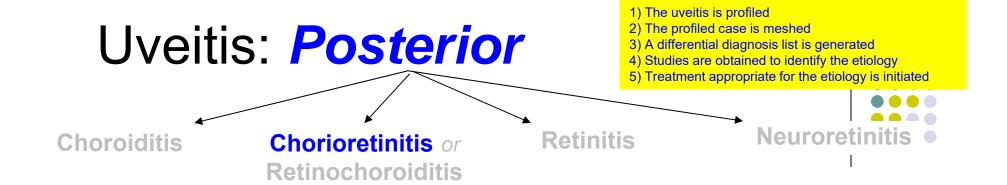
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Both are known to occur, but multifocal is probably more common

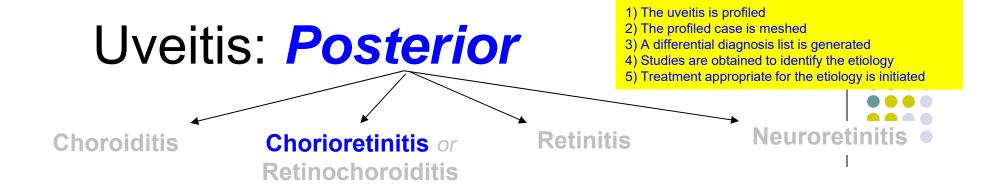


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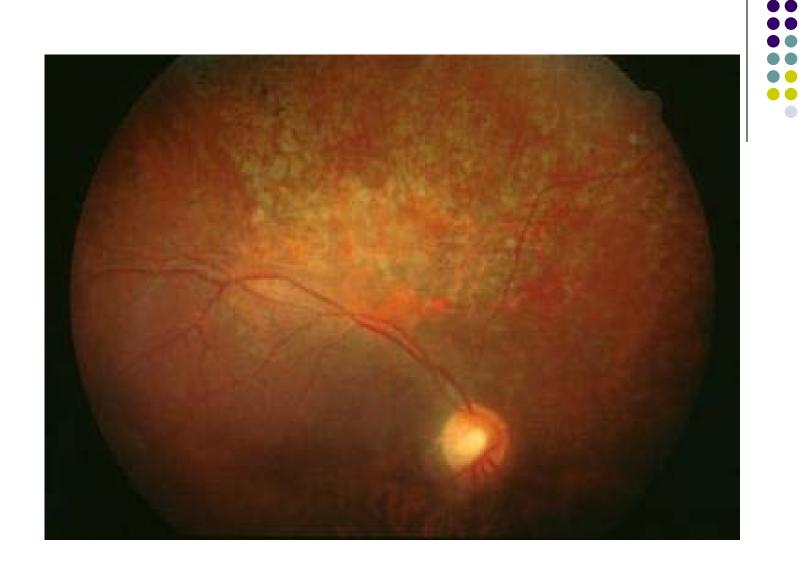


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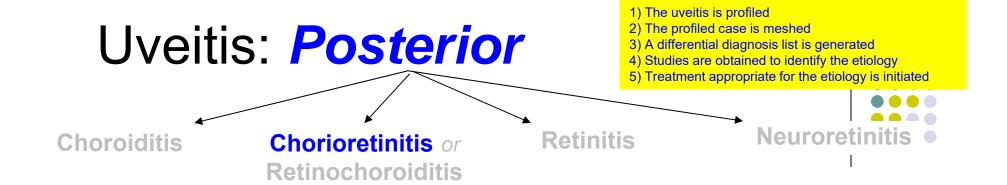
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What do the lesions look like?
They are usually fairly small, and yellowish-gray







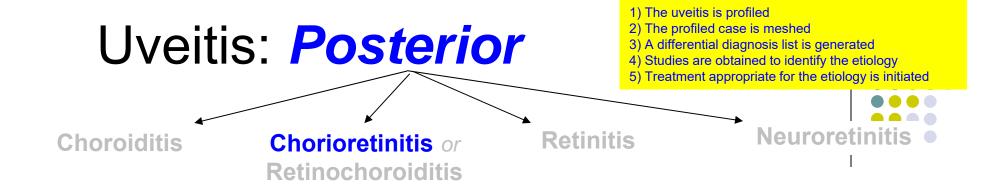
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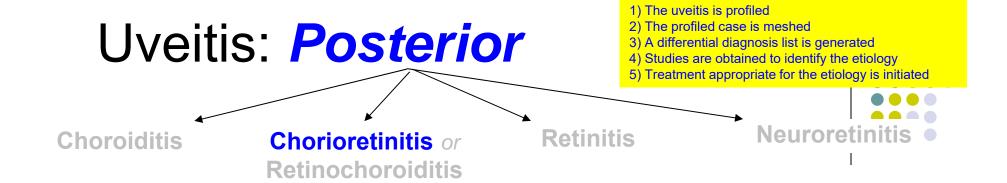
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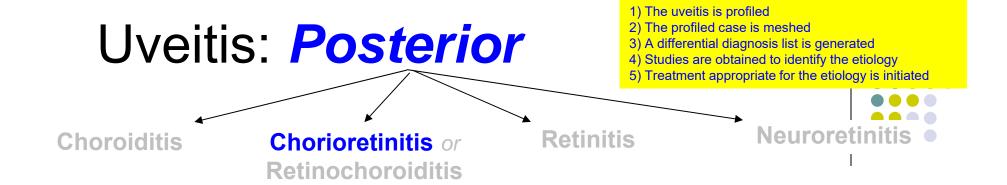
Is the chorioretinitis accompanied by vitritis? Generally yes



What is the **most common** posterior manifestation? Chorioretinitis

Is the chorioretinitis focal, or multifocal?

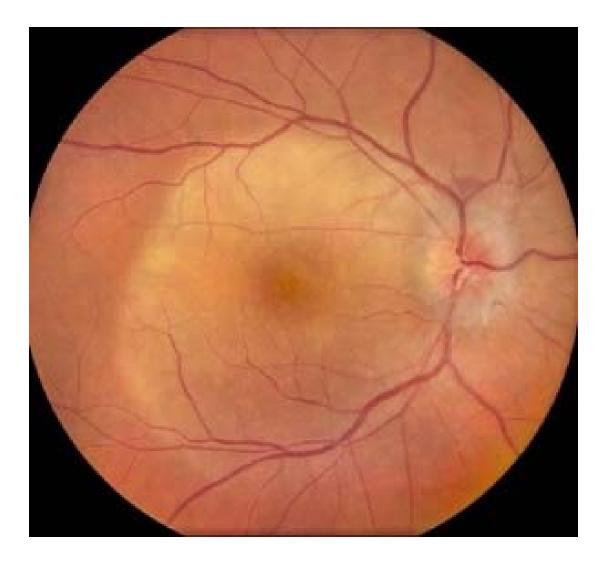
Syphilitic chorioretinopathy can present with placoid lesions. What is this condition called?



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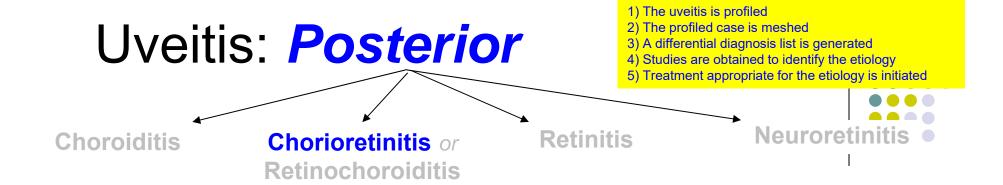
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Tertiary syphilis: ASPPC

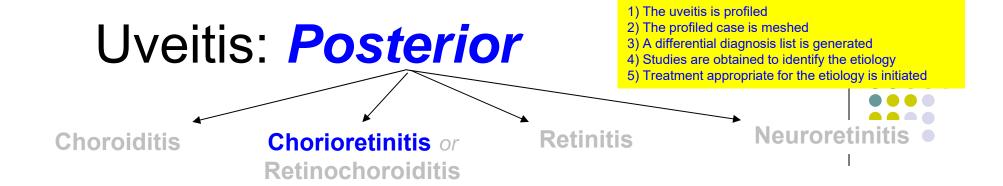


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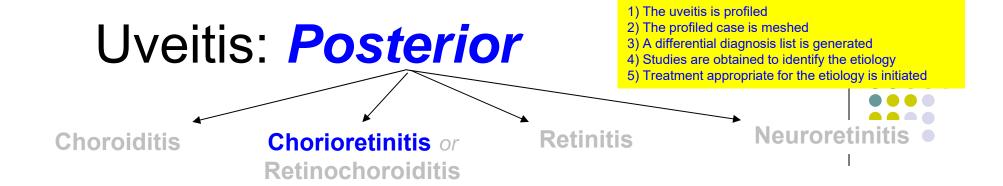
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APMPPE



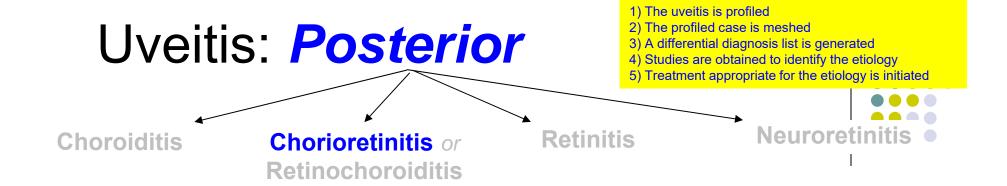
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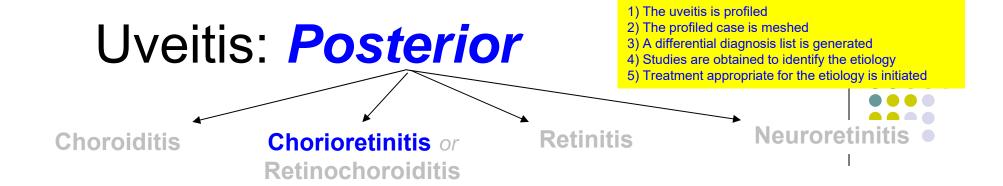
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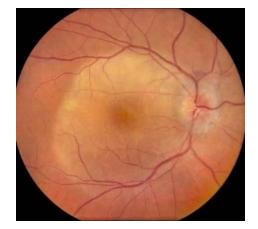
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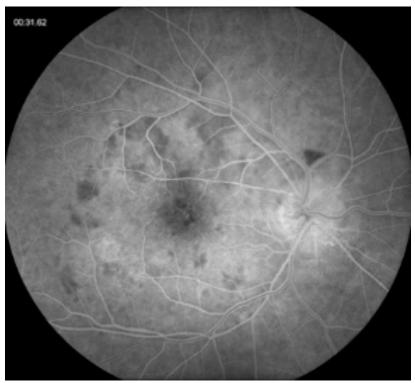
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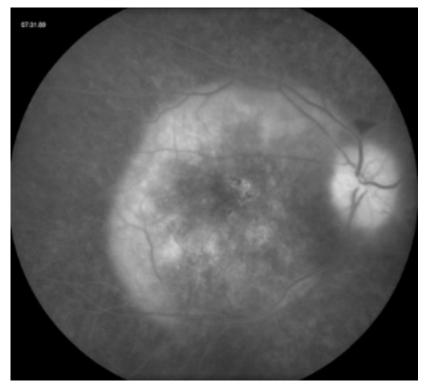
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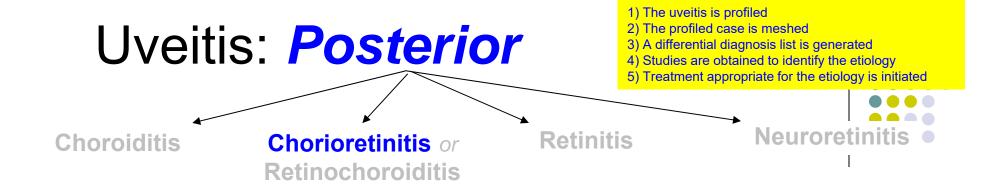








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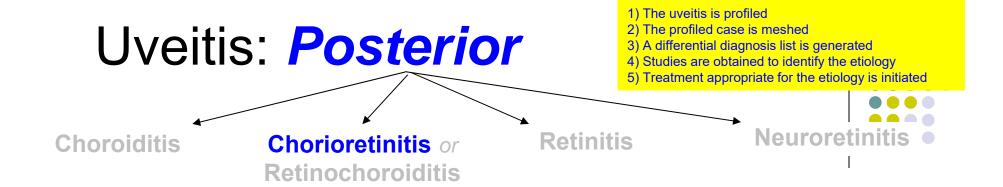
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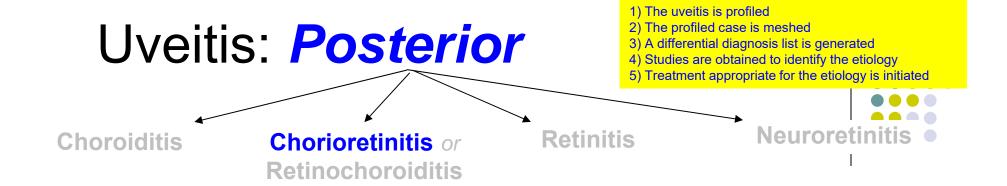
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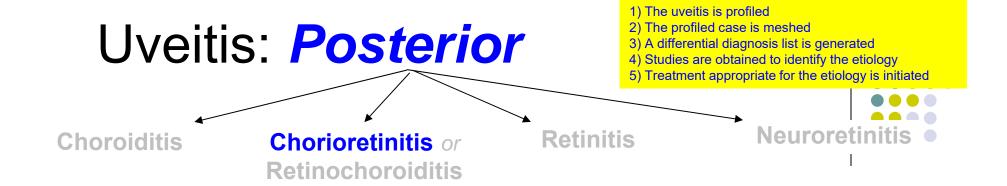
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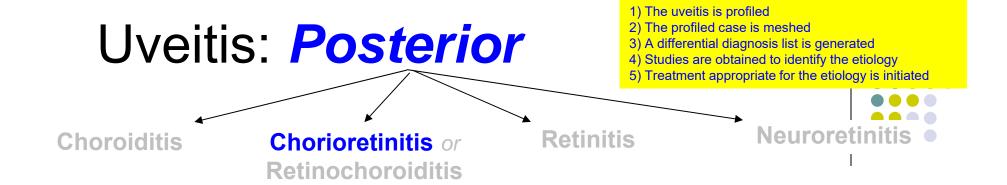




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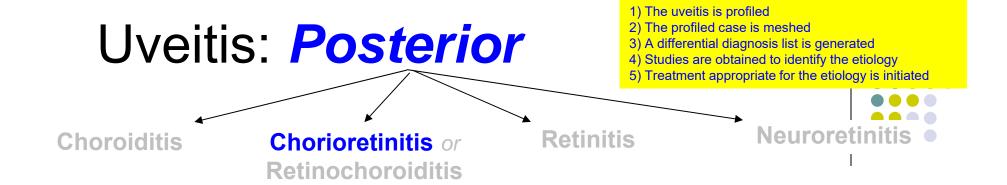
Syphilitic chorioretinopathy in immunocompromised pts can present in another manner-what is it, ie, what is its appearance on DFE?

With large confluent areas of retinal whitening

ASPPC looks like APMPPE; what dreaded condition does this 'retinal whitening' form of syphilitic chorioretinopathy in immunocompromised pts look like?

Are there any factors in the clinical history to push you toward one or the other?

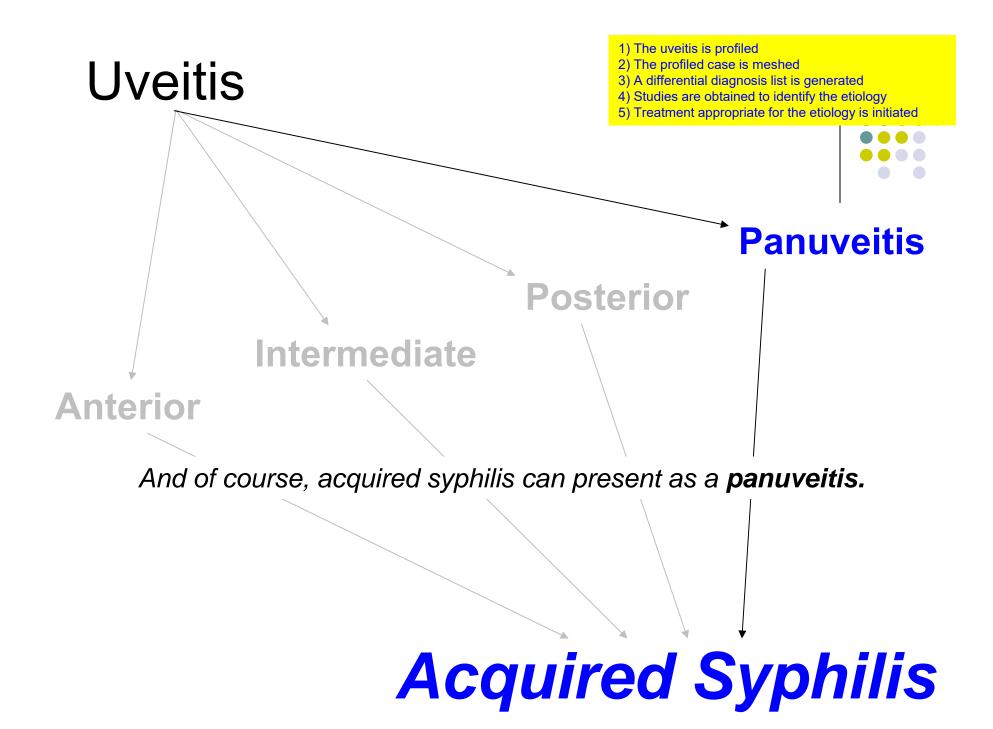
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Serologic tests for syphilis are divided into two categories--what are they?

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Which commonly-performed tests are in which category? --Nontreponemal:

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What does each acronym stand for? -- RPR:

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What does each acronym stand for?

--RPR: Rapid plasma reagin

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SLE; hx of IVDU; many infectious conditions. Even 'advanced age' is thought to cause a FP nontreponemal test in some cases.

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How should the various tests be employed in diagnosing syphilis?

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Lumbar puncture with CSF evaluation for syphilis, along with cell count and protein

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What is the preferred treatment for syphilis?

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What is the preferred treatment for syphilis? IV penicillin G

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That depends upon the stage of the disease, and/or whether it is neurosyphilis

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