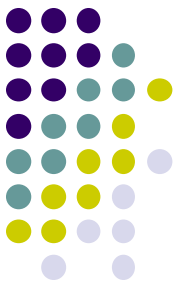


Q

Aniridia: T/F

- Nystagmus is commonly associated



A

Aniridia: T/F

- Nystgamus is commonly associated **True**

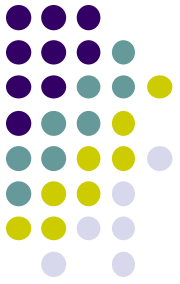


Q

Aniridia: T/F

- Nystagmus is commonly associated **True**

Is this a sensory or a motor nystagmus?

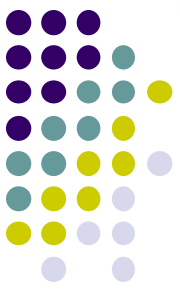


A

Aniridia: T/F

- Nystagmus is commonly associated True

Is this a sensory or a motor nystagmus?
Sensory (more on this shortly)



Q

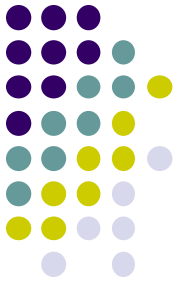
Aniridia: T/F

- Nystagmus is commonly associated **True**

Is this a sensory or a motor nystagmus?

Sensory (more on this shortly)

Is it a jerk, or a pendular nystagmus?



A

Aniridia: T/F

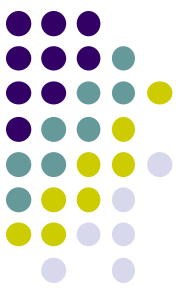
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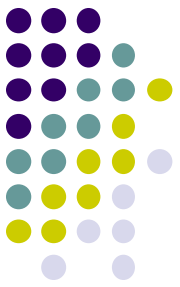
Pendular



Q

Aniridia: T/F

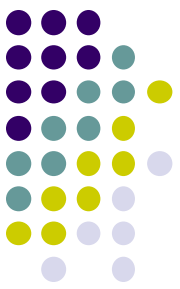
- Nystagmus is commonly associated **True**
- Aniridia is associated with limbal stem cell deficiency



A

Aniridia: T/F

- Nystagmus is commonly associated **True**
- Aniridia is associated with limbal stem cell deficiency **True**

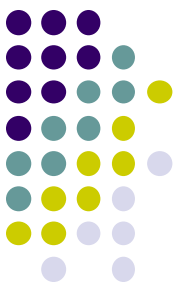


Q

Aniridia: T/F

- Nystagmus is commonly associated True
- Aniridia is associated with **limbal stem cell deficiency** True

Where are limbal stem cells found?





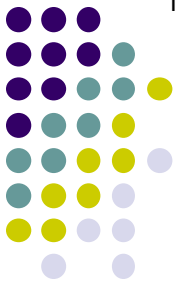
A

Aniridia: T/F

- Nystagmus is commonly associated True
- Aniridia is associated with **limbal stem cell deficiency** True

Where are limbal stem cells found?

Um, at the limbus?



Q

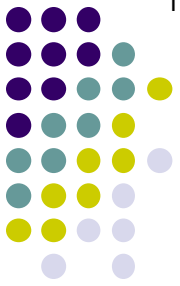
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Where are limbal stem cells found?

Um, at the limbus?

Yes, but where at the limbus--in what eponymous structures?



A

Aniridia: T/F

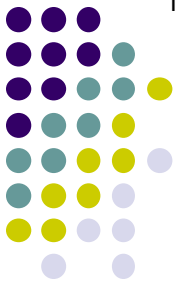
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The **palisades of Vogt**



Q

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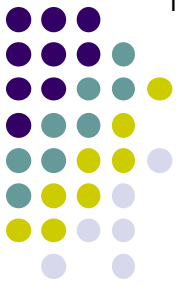
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The **palisades of Vogt**

Briefly describe these palisades.



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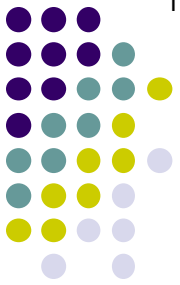
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Briefly describe these palisades.

They are a series of pigmented ridges around the limbus



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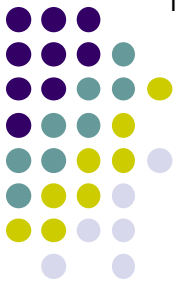
Yes, but where at the limbus--in what eponymous structures?

The **palisades of Vogt**

Briefly describe these palisades.

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At which level of the epithelium are the stem cells found?



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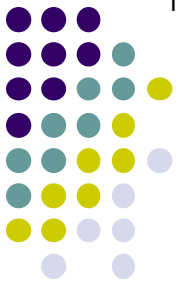
The **palisades of Vogt**

Briefly describe these palisades.

They are a series of pigmented ridges around the limbus

At which level of the epithelium are the stem cells found?

The basal layer



Q

Aniridia: T/F

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Where are limbal stem cells found?

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The **palisades of Vogt**

Briefly describe these palisades.

They are a series of pigmented ridges around the limbus

At which level of the

The basal layer

So, the stem cells are deep. Why?

Q/A

Aniridia: T/F

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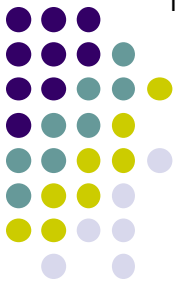
They are a series of pigmented ridges around the limbus

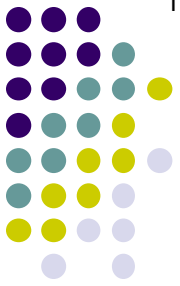
At which level of the

The basal layer

So, the stem cells are deep. Why?

By being deep...





A

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Yes, but where at the limbus--in what eponymous structures?

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Briefly describe these palisades.

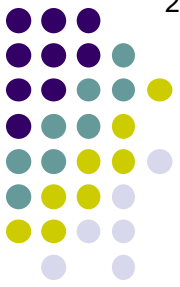
They are a series of **pigmented ridges** around the limbus

At which level of the

The basal layer

So, the stem cells are deep. Why?

By being deep...The overlying pigment absorbs UV light, thereby protecting the stem cells from **mutagenesis**



Q

Aniridia: T/F

- Nystagmus is commonly associated True
- Aniridia is associated with **limbal stem cell deficiency** True

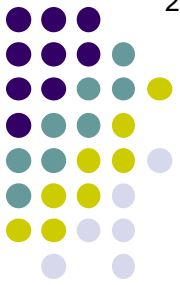
How common is limbal stem cell deficiency in aniridia?

Q/A

Aniridia: T/F

- Nystagmus is commonly associated True
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How common is limbal stem cell deficiency in aniridia?
Very--about % of aniridia pts suffer with it

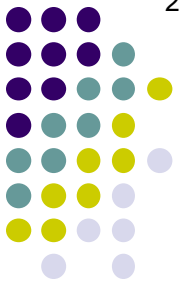


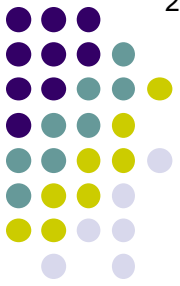
A

Aniridia: T/F

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- Aniridia is associated with **limbal stem cell deficiency** True

How common is limbal stem cell deficiency in aniridia?
Very--about 90% of aniridia pts suffer with it





Q

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How common is limbal stem cell deficiency in aniridia?

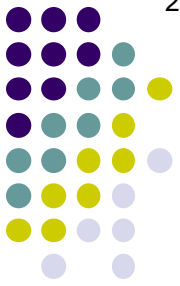
Very--about 90% of aniridia pts suffer with it

How does limbal stem cell deficiency manifest in aniridic pts?

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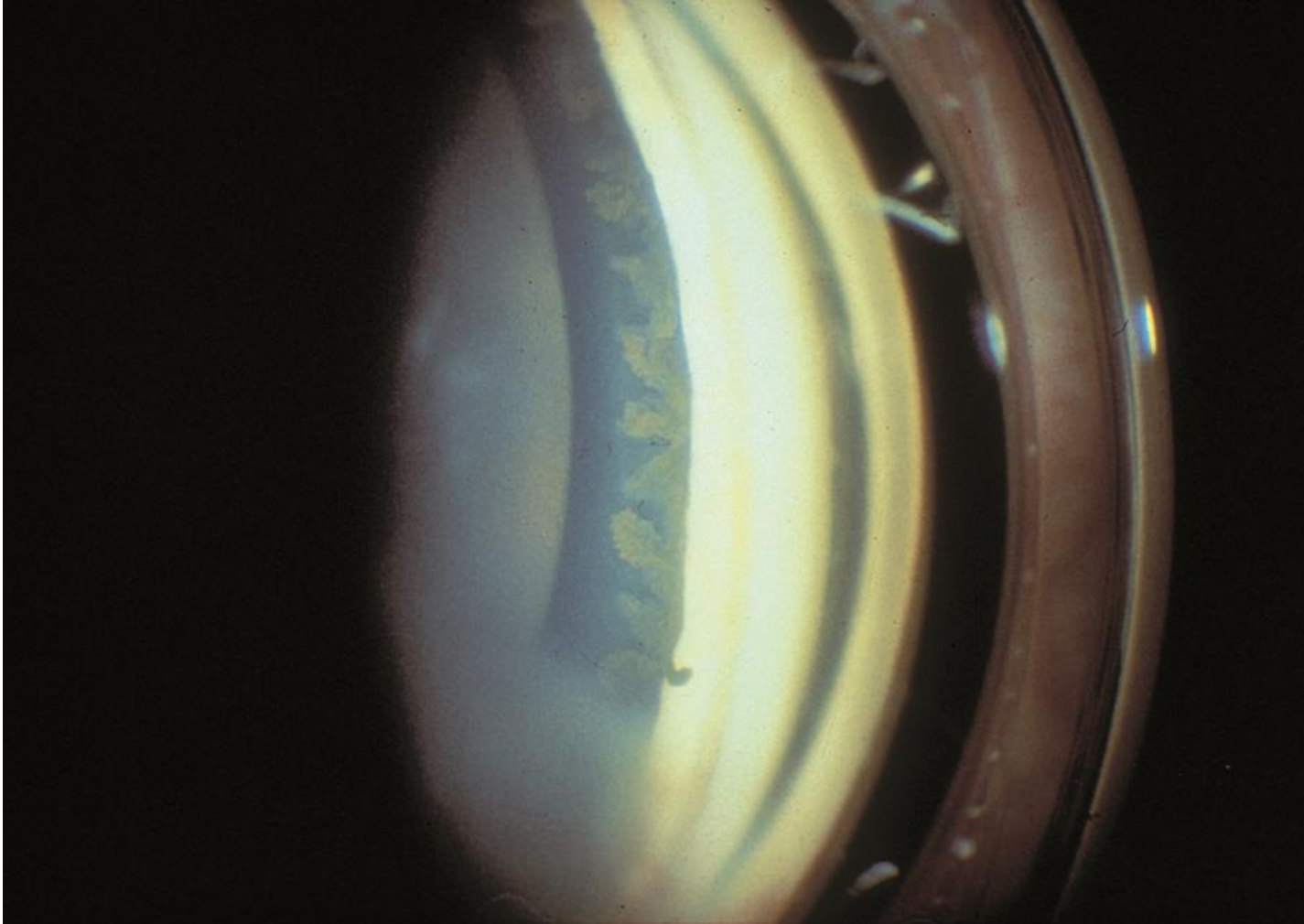
A

Aniridia: T/F

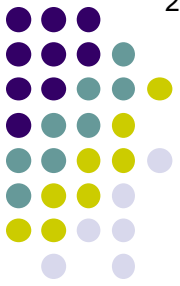
- Nystagmus is commonly associated True
- Aniridia is associated with **limbal stem cell deficiency** True

How common is limbal stem cell deficiency in aniridia?
Very--about 90% of aniridia pts suffer with it

How does limbal stem cell deficiency manifest in aniridic pts?
In all the ways one would expect...
--corneal erosions/ulcers
--vascular pannus
--conjunctivalization of the cornea



Phakic patient with aniridia. Note the corneal pannus obscuring the view of the angle inferiorly



Q

Aniridia: T/F

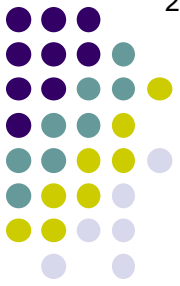
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In all the ways one would expect...

- corneal erosions/ulcers
- vascular pannus
- conjunctivalization of the cornea

What is aniridia-associated keratopathy called?



A

Aniridia: T/F

- Nystagmus is commonly associated True
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How common is limbal stem cell deficiency in aniridia?
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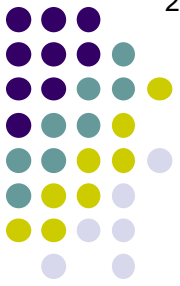
- corneal erosions/ulcers
- vascular pannus
- conjunctivalization of the cornea

What is aniridia-associated keratopathy called?
It is called '**aniridia-associated keratopathy**'

Q

Aniridia: T/F

- Nystagmus is commonly associated **True**
- Aniridia is associated with limbal stem cell deficiency **True**
- Presents unilaterally and bilaterally in roughly equal rates

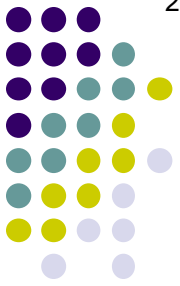


A/Q

Aniridia: T/F

- Nystagmus is commonly associated **True**
- Aniridia is associated with limbal stem cell deficiency **True**
- Presents unilaterally and bilaterally in roughly equal rates **False; it is almost always**

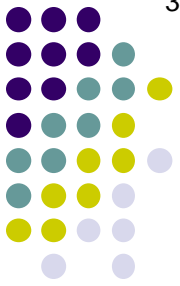
you got a 50-50 shot...

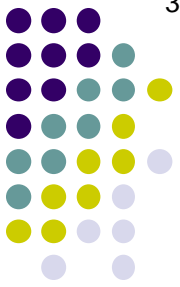


A

Aniridia: T/F

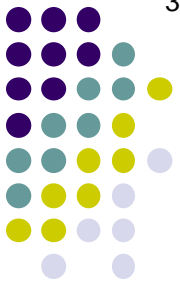
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Bilateral congenital aniridia

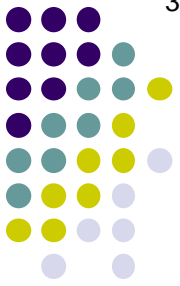
Q

Aniridia: T/F

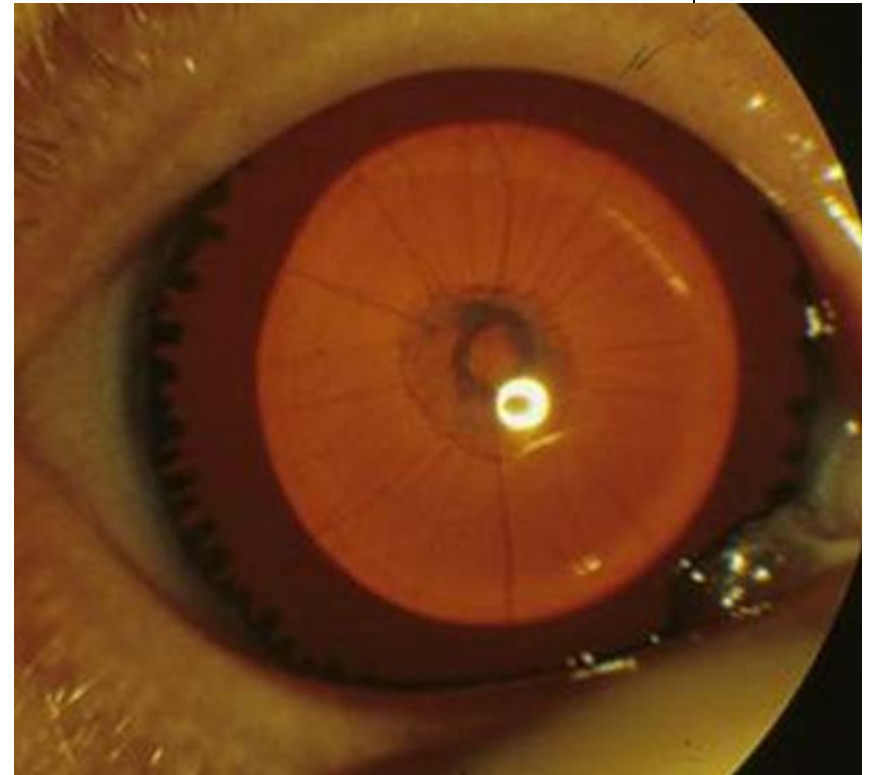
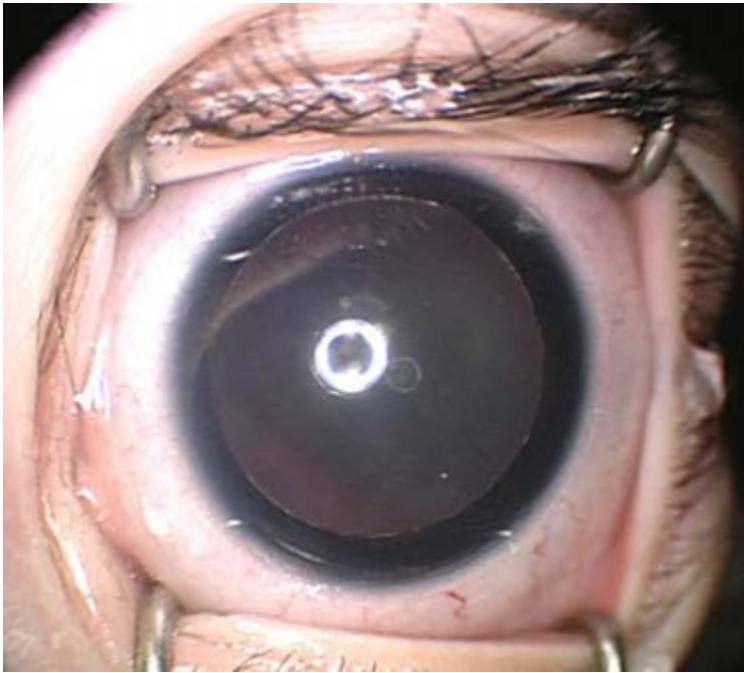
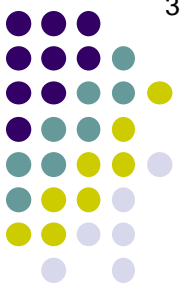
- Nystagmus is commonly associated **True**
- Aniridia is associated with limbal stem cell deficiency **True**
- Presents unilaterally and bilaterally in roughly equal rates **False; it is almost always bilateral**
- The term 'aniridia' is a misnomer because, in about 1/2 of cases, a rudimentary iris root is present

A

Aniridia: T/F

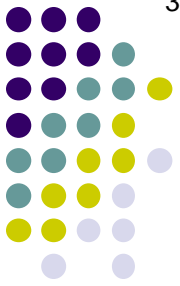


- Nystagmus is commonly associated **True**
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- The term 'aniridia' is a misnomer because, in about 1/2 of cases, a rudimentary iris root is present **False; it's a misnomer because a rudimentary iris root is *always* present**



Aniridia: Note the iris roots

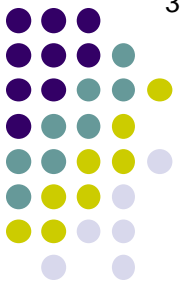
Q

Aniridia: T/F

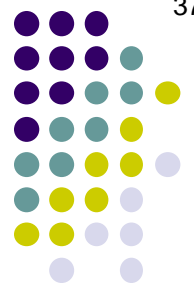
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- Aniridia is strongly associated with foveal and optic nerve hypoplasia

A

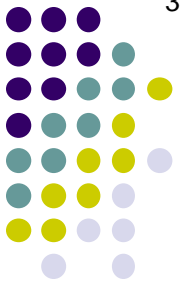
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Aniridia: Foveal/optic nerve hypoplasia



Aniridia: T/F

- **Nystagmus is commonly associated True**
 - Aniridia is associated with limbal stem cell deficiency True
 - Presents unilaterally and bilaterally in roughly equal rates False; it is
- The foveal and optic nerve hypoplasia lead to poor central acuity (usually no better than 20/100, and often significantly worse). In turn, the poor visual acuity produces the congenital sensory nystagmus that is associated with aniridia.
- rudimentary iris root is present False; it's a misnomer because a rudimentary iris root is *always* present
- Aniridia is strongly associated with foveal and optic nerve hypoplasia True



Q

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Is there a correlation between the extent of aniridia and the severity of the foveal hypoplasia?



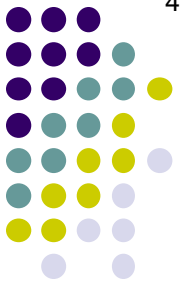
A

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Is there a correlation between the extent of aniridia and the severity of the foveal hypoplasia?
No

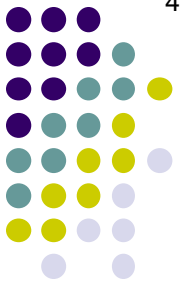
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- Patients complain of (and infants suffer from) photophobia

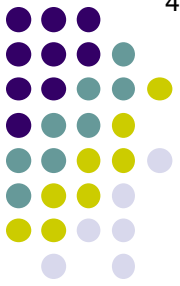
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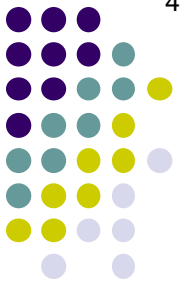
Q

Aniridia: T/F

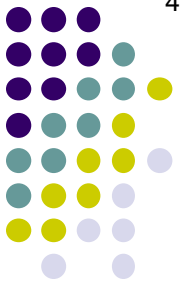
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- Aniridia is strongly associated with foveal and optic nerve hypoplasia **True**
- Patients complain of (and infants suffer from) photophobia **True**
- Familial cases are at risk for Wilms tumor

A

Aniridia: T/F



- Nystagmus is commonly associated **True**
- Aniridia is associated with limbal stem cell deficiency **True**
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- The term 'aniridia' is a misnomer because, in about ½ of cases, a rudimentary iris root is present **False; it's a misnomer because a rudimentary iris root is *always* present**
- Aniridia is strongly associated with foveal and optic nerve hypoplasia **True**
- Patients complain of (and infants suffer from) photophobia **True**
- Familial cases are at risk for Wilms tumor **False; 1/3 of **sporadic** cases develop Wilms tumor as part of the *WAGR* complex**

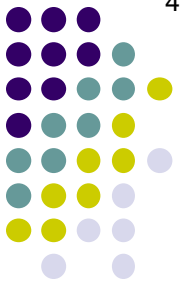


Q

Aniridia: T/F

- Nystagmus is commonly associated True
- Aniridia is associated with limbal stem cell deficiency True
- Presents unilaterally and bilaterally in roughly equal rates False; it is almost always bilateral
- The term 'aniridia' is a misnomer because, in about 1% of cases, a rudimentary iris is present
- Aniridia is associated with glaucoma True
- Patients complain of (and infants suffer from) photophobia True
- Familial cases are at risk for **Wilms tumor** False; 1/3 of **sporadic** cases develop Wilms tumor as part of the *WAGR* complex

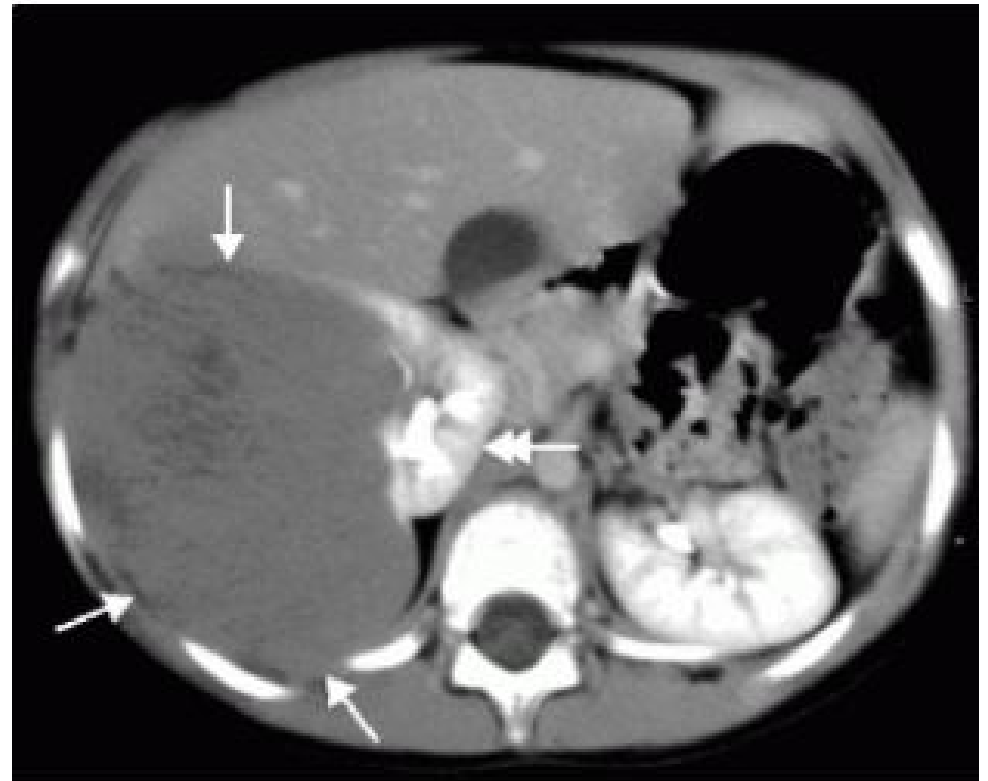
What sort of neoplasm is a Wilms tumor?



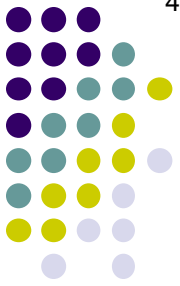
A

Aniridia: T/F

- Nystagmus is commonly associated True
- Aniridia is associated with limbal stem cell deficiency True
- Presents unilaterally and bilaterally in roughly equal rates False; it is almost always bilateral
- The term 'aniridia' is a misnomer because, in about 1% of cases, a rudimentary iris is present.
 - What sort of neoplasm is a Wilms tumor?
A nephroblastoma
- Aniridia is associated with glaucoma True
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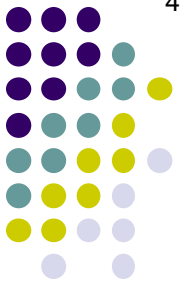
Wilm's tumor



Q

Aniridia: T/F

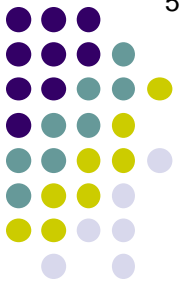
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 - *As childhood intra-abdominal malignancies go, is Wilms tumor common?*
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 - *What sort of neoplasm is a Wilms tumor?*
A nephroblastoma
 - *As childhood intra-abdominal malignancies go, is Wilms tumor common?*
Yes--it's the most common intra-abdominal malignancy of childhood
- Aniridia True
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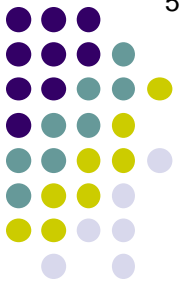
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A nephroblastoma

As childhood intra-abdominal malignancies go, is Wilms tumor common?

Yes--it's the most common intra-abdominal malignancy of childhood

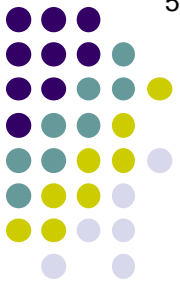
Does Wilms tumor have a favorable prognosis?



A

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 - What sort of neoplasm is a Wilms tumor?*
A nephroblastoma
 - As childhood intra-abdominal malignancies go, is Wilms tumor common?*
Yes--it's the most common intra-abdominal malignancy of childhood
 - Does Wilms tumor have a favorable prognosis?*
Yes; at present, >90% case are curable if caught early
- Patients complain of (and infants suffer from) photophobia True
- Familial cases are at risk for **Wilms tumor** False; 1/3 of **sporadic** cases develop Wilms tumor as part of the *WAGR* complex



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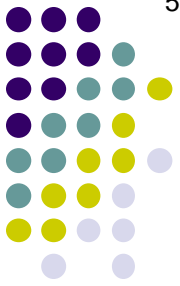
What are the other components of the WAGR complex?

--Wilms tumor

--Aniridia

--G

--R



A

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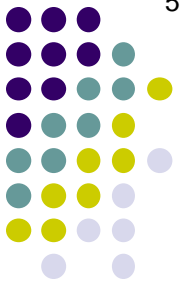
What are the other components of the WAGR complex?

--Wilms tumor

--Aniridia

--Genitourinary abnormalities

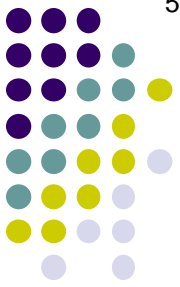
--Retardation



Q

Aniridia: T/F

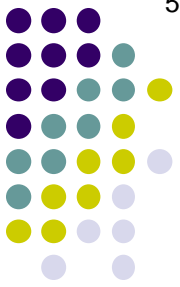
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- Aniridia is strongly associated with foveal and optic nerve hypoplasia **True**
- Patients complain of (and infants suffer from) photophobia **True**
- Familial cases are at risk for Wilms tumor **False; 1/3 of **sporadic** cases develop Wilms tumor as part of the *WAGR* complex**
- Aniridia is associated with glaucoma



A

Aniridia: T/F

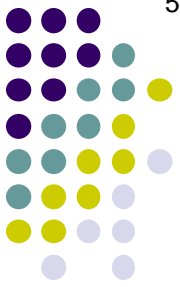
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Q

Aniridia: T/F

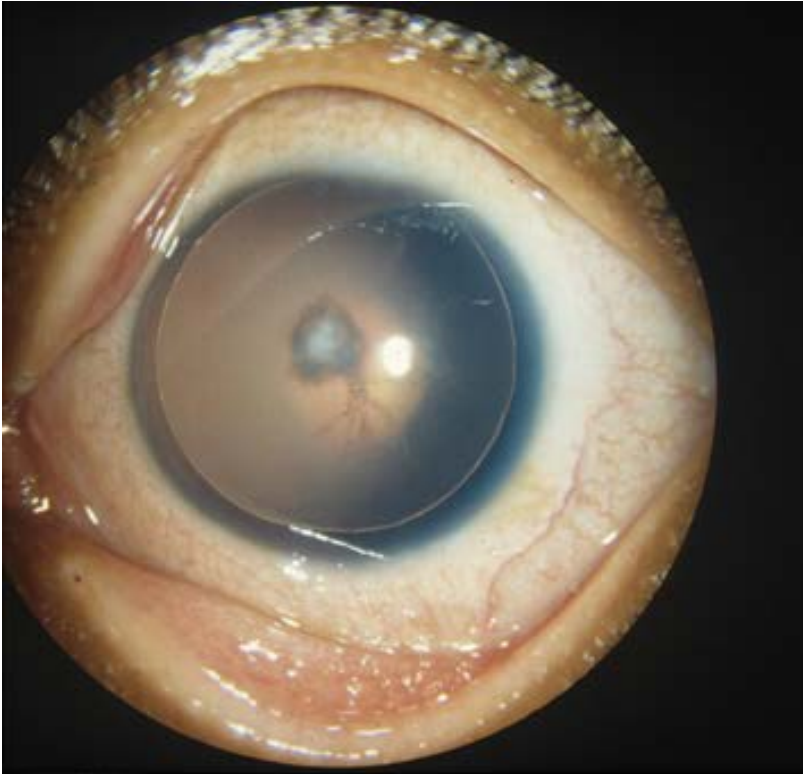
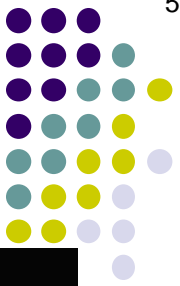
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- Familial cases are at risk for Wilms tumor **False; 1/3 of **sporadic** cases develop Wilms tumor as part of the *WAGR* complex**
- Aniridia is associated with glaucoma **True**
- Aniridia is associated with early-onset cataracts



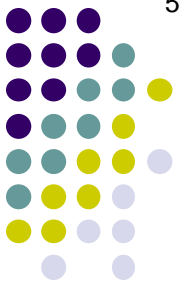
A

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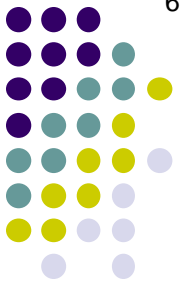


Bilateral childhood cataracts in aniridia



Aniridia: T/F

- **Nystagmus** is commonly associated True
- Aniridia is associated with **limbal stem cell deficiency** True
- Presents unilaterally and bilaterally in roughly equal rates False; it is almost always bilateral
- The BCSC characterizes it is a **panophthalmic disorder**
 - Don't think of aniridia as an iris condition! because, in about 1/2 of cases, a rudimentary iris root is always present False; it's a misnomer because a rudimentary iris root is always present
 - Aniridia is strongly associated with **foveal and optic nerve hypoplasia** True
 - Patients complain of (and infants suffer from) photophobia True
 - Familial cases are at risk for Wilms tumor False; 1/3 of **sporadic** cases develop Wilms tumor as part of the **WAGR** complex
 - Aniridia is associated with **glaucoma** True
 - Aniridia is associated with early-onset **cataracts** True

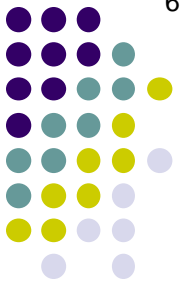


Q

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- Aniridia is strongly associated with foveal and optic nerve hypoplasia True
- Patients complain of (and infants suffer from) photophobia True
- Familial cases develop in childhood and are usually bilateral
- Aniridia is associated with early-onset cataracts True
- **Aniridia is associated with early-onset cataracts True**

How 'early' do aniridia pts get their 'early onset' cataracts?



A

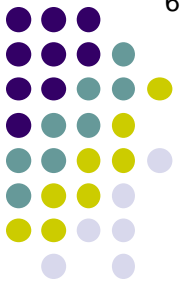
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- Familial cases Childhood to young adulthood
- Aniridia is a
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Childhood to young adulthood

radic



Q

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- Aniridia is a
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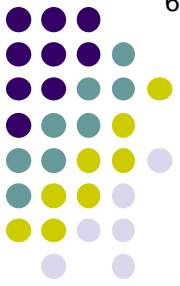
How 'early' do aniridia pts get their 'early onset' cataracts?

Childhood to young adulthood

How common are early-onset cataracts in aniridia?

A/Q

Aniridia: T/F



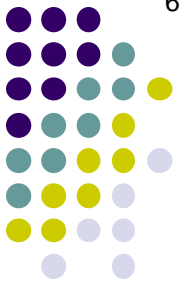
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How 'early' do aniridia pts get their 'early onset' cataracts?

Childhood to young adulthood

How common are early-onset cataracts in aniridia?

They occur in at least % of aniridia cases



A

Aniridia: T/F

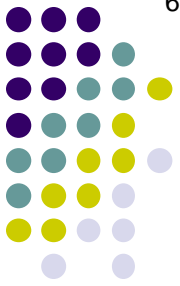
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- **Aniridia is associated with early-onset cataracts True**

How 'early' do aniridia pts get their 'early onset' cataracts?

Childhood to young adulthood

How common are early-onset cataracts in aniridia?

They occur in at least 50% of aniridia cases



Q

Aniridia: T/F

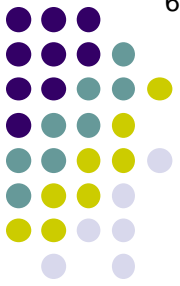
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Is glaucoma common in aniridia?

- **Aniridia is associated with glaucoma True**
- Aniridia is associated with early-onset cataracts True

A/Q

Aniridia: T/F

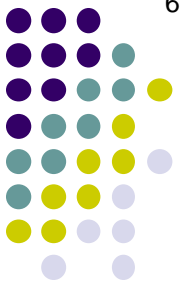


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Is glaucoma common in aniridia?

Yes. Estimates vary, but it's a safe bet that at least % of aniridics develop glaucoma

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A

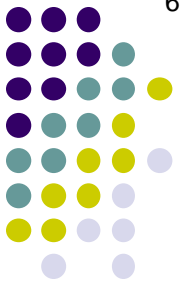
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Is glaucoma a significant factor in the visual prognosis of aniridic pts?

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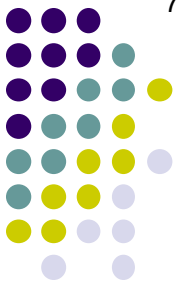
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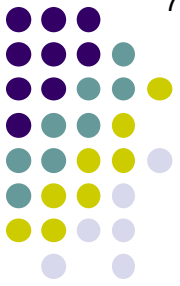
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Is glaucoma in aniridia of the open-angle or angle-closure variety?

- **Aniridia is associated with glaucoma True**
- Aniridia is associated with early-onset cataracts True



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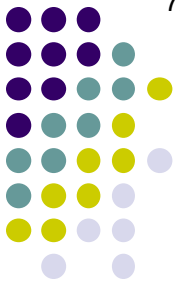
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Angle closure

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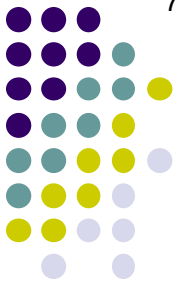
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Angle closure

What is the mechanism of angle closure?

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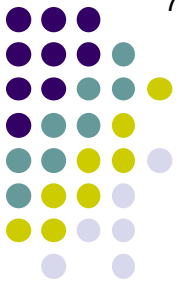
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Angle closure

What is the mechanism of angle closure?

That depends on the nature of the aniridia. In familial aniridia the angle is structurally normal at birth, but becomes occluded over time by the rudimentary iris root. In contrast, the angle in sporadic aniridia tends to be congenitally abnormal.

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Yes. Glaucomatous optic neuropathy is a significant cause of blindness in aniridics, as are complications stemming from *How does this occlusion process proceed?*

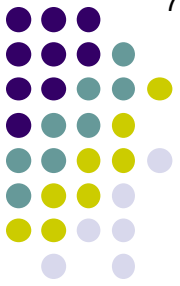
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Yes. Estimates vary, but it's a safe bet that at least 50% of aniridics develop glaucoma

Is glaucoma a significant factor in the visual prognosis of aniridic pts?

Yes. Glaucomatous optic neuropathy is a significant cause of blindness in aniridics, as are complications stemming from

How does this occlusion process proceed?

Gradually. Over time, the iris stump rotates anteriorly, resulting in contact with the TM. Eventually, synechiae form, and the angle will occlude.

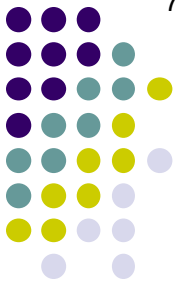
Is glaucoma in aniridia

Angle closure

What is the mechanism

That depends on the nature of the aniridia. In familial aniridia the angle is structurally normal at birth, but becomes **occluded over time by the rudimentary iris root**. In contrast, the angle in sporadic aniridia tends to be congenitally abnormal.

- **Aniridia is associated with glaucoma True**
- Aniridia is associated with early-onset cataracts True



Q

Aniridia: T/F

- Nystagmus is commonly associated True
- Aniridia is associated with limbal stem cell deficiency True
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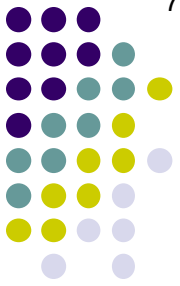
How much time are we talking about here? That is, in such cases, when will the glaucoma declare itself?

What is the mechanism

No earlier than the second decade, and often much later

That depends on the nature of the aniridia. In familial aniridia the angle is structurally normal at birth, but becomes **occluded over time by the rudimentary iris root**. In contrast, the angle in sporadic aniridia tends to be congenitally abnormal.

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Is glaucoma in aniridia a primary angle-closure variety?

Angle

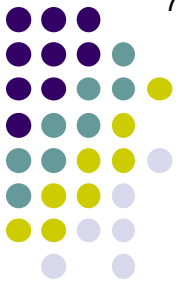
What

That

normal

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A

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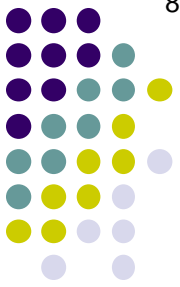
Yes. Glaucomatous optic neuropathy is a significant cause of blindness in aniridics, as are complications stemming from glaucoma surgery.

Is glaucoma in aniridia a variety?

Angle The TM is poorly developed. Further, corneal endothelium may grow across the angle producing PAS.

What That In aniridia the angle is structurally normal at birth, but becomes occluded over time by the rudimentary iris root. In contrast, **the angle in sporadic aniridia tends to be congenitally abnormal.**

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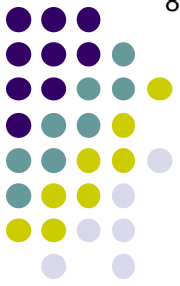
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What In such cases, when will the glaucoma declare itself?

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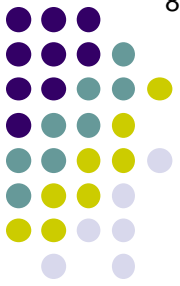
Angle The TM is poorly developed. Further, corneal endothelium may grow across the angle producing PAS.

What *In such cases, when will the glaucoma declare itself?*

That Early--these cases present as congenital glaucoma In aniridia the angle is structurally normal, but becomes occluded by the rudimentary iris root. In contrast,

the angle in sporadic aniridia tends to be congenitally abnormal.

- **Aniridia is associated with glaucoma True**
- Aniridia is associated with early-onset cataracts True



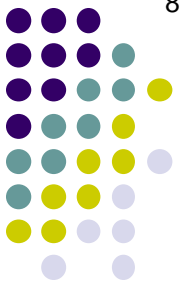
Q

Aniridia: T/F

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Defects involving what gene are the cause of aniridia?

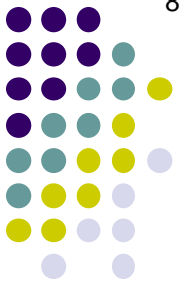
- True
- Aniridia is strongly associated with foveal and optic nerve hypoplasia True
- Patients complain of (and infants suffer from) photophobia True
- Familial cases are at risk for Wilms tumor False; 1/3 of **sporadic** cases develop Wilms tumor as part of the *WAGR* complex
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A

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The PAX6 gene
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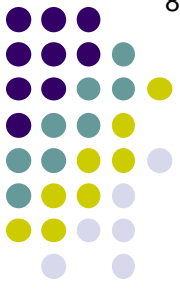


Q

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 - Aniridia is associated with limbal stem cell deficiency True
 - Presents unilaterally and bilaterally in roughly equal rates False; it is
- Defects involving what gene are the cause of aniridia?*
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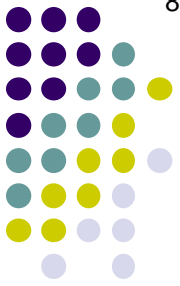
What other ocular abnormalities are associated with defects of the PAX6 gene?
- Aniridia is strongly associated with foveal and optic nerve hypoplasia True
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 - Aniridia is associated with glaucoma True
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A

Aniridia: T/F

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- Presents unilaterally and bilaterally in roughly equal rates False; it is
- *Defects involving what gene are the cause of aniridia?*
The PAX6 gene
- *What other ocular abnormalities are associated with defects of the PAX6 gene?*
I'm glad you asked...
- Aniridia is strongly associated with foveal and optic nerve hypoplasia True
- Patients complain of (and infants suffer from) photophobia True
- Familial cases are at risk for Wilms tumor False; 1/3 of **sporadic** cases develop Wilms tumor as part of the *WAGR* complex
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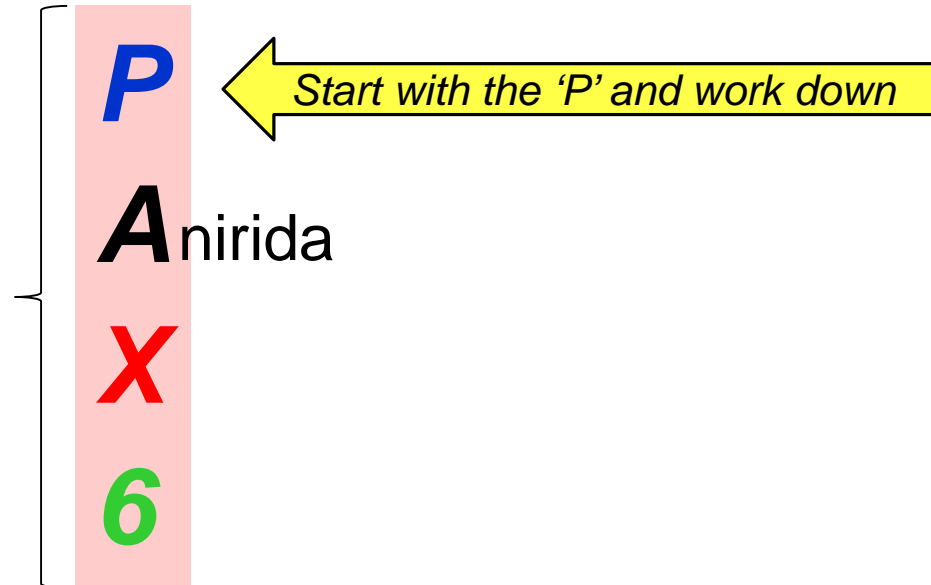


Q

Aniridia: T/F

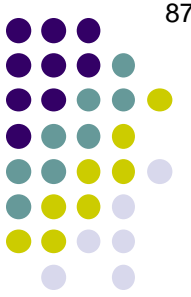
What four ocular abnormalities are attributed to the PAX6 gene?

There are four main abnormalities, and the term PAX6 acts as its own mnemonic. Start with the 'P' and make your way down...



A

Aniridia: T/F



What four ocular abnormalities are attributed to the PAX6 gene?

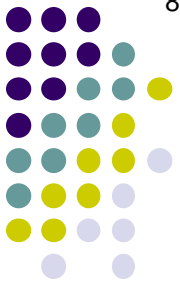
Peters anomaly

Anirida

X

6

A large yellow arrow with a black outline, pointing from the right towards the red 'X' in the acronym 'PAX6'.



A

Aniridia: T/F

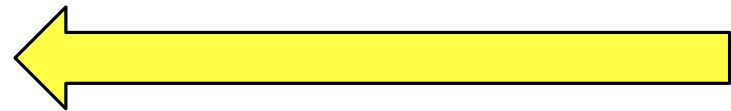
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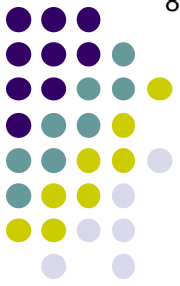
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Anirida

Congenital catara **X**

6





A

Aniridia: T/F

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Peters anomaly

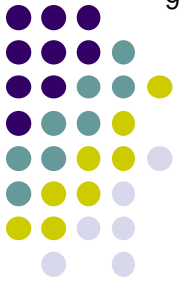
Anirida

Congenital cataract **X**

foveal **6** hypoplasia

If you use your imagination, the 6 looks like a lower-case h...





Q

Aniridia: T/F

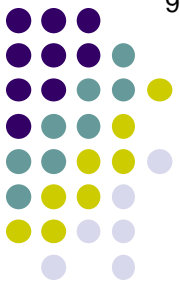
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What is Peters anomaly?

A

Aniridia: T/F

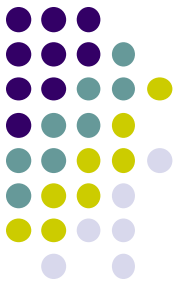


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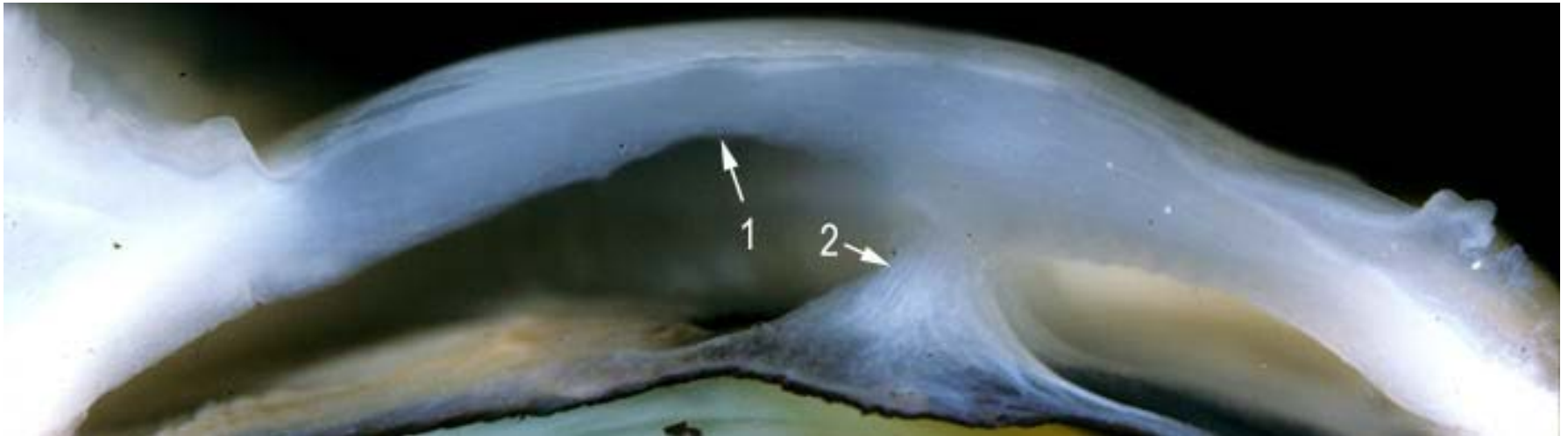
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A condition characterized by defect of the posterior central cornea, including the absence of Descemet's and subjacent endothelium. Adhesions extending from the iris to the posterior corneal defect are often present.

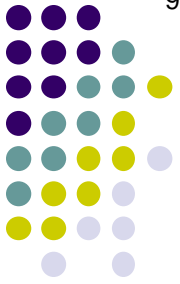


1. Defect of the posterior central cornea, including the absence of Descemet's and subjacent endothelium

2. Adhesions extending from the iris to the posterior corneal defect



Peters anomaly



Q

Aniridia: T/F

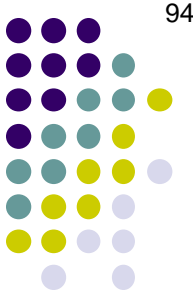
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How does it present?



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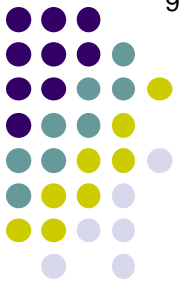
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How does it present?

As a corneal opacity at birth (it's the **P** in the infamous **PCO** mnemonic for congenital cloudy cornea).

mnemonic for



A

Aniridia: T/F

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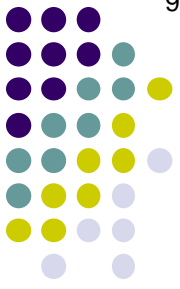
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As a corneal opacity at birth (it's the **P** in the infamous *STUMPED* mnemonic for congenital cloudy cornea).



A

Aniridia: T/F

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Peters anomaly

What is Peters anomaly?

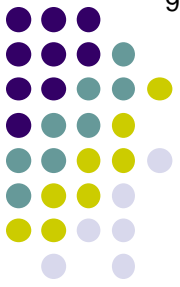
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As a corneal opacity at birth (it's the **P** in the infamous *STUMPED mnemonic for congenital cloudy cornea*). The opacity ranges in severity from a faint haze to an opaque, elevated and vascularized mess.



Peters anomaly: Hazy cornea



Q

Aniridia: T/F

What four ocular abnormalities are attributed to the PAX6 gene?

What is the STUMPED mnemonic for a cloudy cornea in an infant?

S
T
U
M
P
E
D

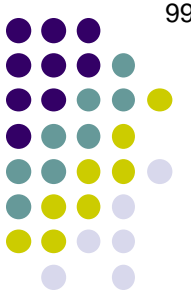
Peters anomaly

Note: There are two
S's
and two
E's

iris to the posterior cornea

How does it present?

As a corneal opacity at birth (it's the **P** in the infamous **STUMPED mnemonic** for congenital cloudy cornea). The opacity ranges in severity from a faint haze to an opaque, elevated and vascularized mess.



What four ocular abnormalities are attributed to the PAX6 gene?

Note: There are two
S's
and two
E's

What is the STUMPED mnemonic for a cloudy cornea in an infant?

Sclerocornea; **S**tromal dystrophy (CHSD)

Trauma (eg, forcep injury)

Ulcer

Mucopolysaccharidosis

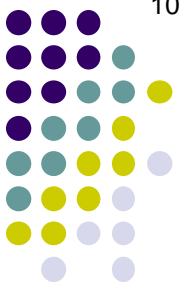
Peters anomaly

Endothelial dystrophy (CHED); **E**levated IOP (congenital glaucoma)

Dermoid of the cornea

How does it present?

As a corneal opacity at birth (it's the **P** in the infamous **STUMPED mnemonic** for congenital cloudy cornea). The opacity ranges in severity from a faint haze to an opaque, elevated and vascularized mess.



Q

Aniridia: T/F

What four ocular abnormalities are attributed to the PAX6 gene?

Peters anomaly?

Aniridia?

Congenital cataract **X**?

foveal **6** hypoplasia?

Of the four, which is most strongly associated with PAX6 mutations?



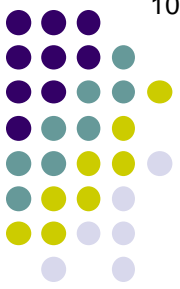
A

Aniridia: T/F

What four ocular abnormalities are attributed to the PAX6 gene?

Peters anomaly
Anirida
Congenital cataract **X**
foveal **6**ypoplasia

Of the four, which is most strongly associated with PAX6 mutations?
Aniridia. As the *Fundamentals* book puts it, “PAX6 mutations are the basis of **virtually all cases of aniridia.**” [emphasis added]



Q

What sort of gene is PAX6 anyway?

*What four ocular abnormalities are attributed to the **PAX6 gene**?*

Peters anomaly

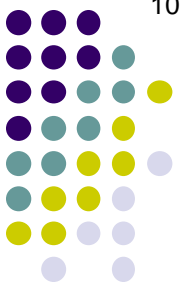
Achiria

Congenital cataract

X

foveal **6** proplasia

If you use your imagination, the 6 looks like a lower-case h...



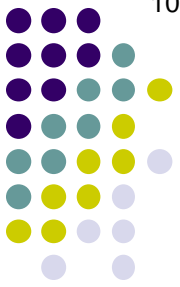
A

What sort of gene is PAX6 anyway?
A homeobox gene

What four ocular abnormalities are attributed to the **PAX6 gene**?

Peters anomaly
Achiria
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 foveal **6** proplasia

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Q

What sort of gene is PAX6 anyway?

A homeobox gene

What is a homeobox gene?

What four ocular abnormalities are attributed to the **PAX6 gene**?

P

Peters anomaly

A

Aniridia

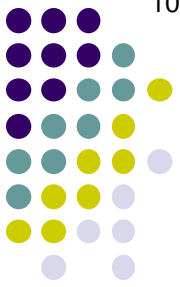
X

Congenital cataract

6

foveal hypoplasia

If you use your imagination, the **6** looks like a lower-case **h**...



A

What sort of gene is PAX6 anyway?

A homeobox gene

What is a homeobox gene?

One that regulates morphogenesis

*What four ocular abnormalities are attributed to the **PAX6 gene**?*

P

Peters anomaly

A

Aniridia

X

Congenital cataract

6

foveal hypoplasia

If you use your imagination, the 6 looks like a lower-case h...



What sort of gene is *PAX6* anyway?
A homeobox gene

As the BCSC *Peds* book puts it, "The *PAX6* gene is the master control gene for eye morphogenesis."

One that regulates morphogenesis

What four ocular abnormalities are attributed to the *PAX6* gene?

Peters anomaly

Achiria

Congenital cataract

X

foveal **6** proplasia

If you use your imagination, the **6** looks like a lower-case **h**...



Q

Aniridia: T/F

Why is **sporadic** aniridia associated with Wilms tumor, but not **familial** aniridia?

True

- Patients complain of (and infants suffer from) photophobia True
- Familial cases are at risk for Wilms tumor **False; 1/3 of sporadic cases develop Wilms tumor as part of the WAGR complex**
- Aniridia is associated with glaucoma True
- Aniridia is associated with early-onset cataracts True



Why is **sporadic aniridia** associated with Wilms tumor, but not **familial aniridia**?

The PAX6 gene and the Wilms tumor gene (called **WAGR**) are adjacent to one another on chromosome 11p. *Inherited* genetic abnormalities leading to familial aniridia are located within the PAX6 gene itself, and thus do not affect the viability of the nearby **WAGR**. In contrast, *sporadic* cases of aniridia are usually the result of the wholesale deletion of a chunk of genetic material in the PAX6 'neighborhood.' And since **WAGR** is its next-door neighbor, it is often affected as well by these deletions.

Because of the PAX6/**WAGR** spatial relationship, all infants presenting with sporadic aniridia **must** undergo genetic screening for the Wilms tumor defect.

True

- Patients complain of (and infants suffer from) photophobia True
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A

Aniridia: T/F

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The PAX6 gene and the Wilms tumor gene (called *WT1*) are adjacent to one another on chromosome 11p. *Inherited* genetic abnormalities leading to familial aniridia are located within the PAX6 gene itself, and thus do not affect the viability of the nearby *WT1*. In contrast, *sporadic* cases of aniridia are usually the result of the wholesale deletion of a chunk of genetic material in the PAX6 'neighborhood.' And since *WT1* is its next-door neighbor, it is often affected as well by these deletions.

Because of the PAX6/ *WT1* spatial relationship, all infants presenting with sporadic aniridia **must** undergo genetic screening for the Wilms tumor defect.

True

- Patients complain of (and infants suffer from) photophobia True
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Q

Aniridia: T/F

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Does this 'neighborhood deletion effect' account for the other manifestations of the WAGR complex?

What are the other components of the WAGR complex?

- Wilms tumor
- Aniridia
- Genitourinary abnormalities
- Retardation

True

- Patients complain of (and it is) glaucoma True
- Familial cases are at risk for Wilms tumor False, 1/3 of sporadic cases develop Wilms tumor as part of the **WAGR complex**
- Aniridia is associated with glaucoma True
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Aniridia: T/F

Why is **sporadic aniridia** associated with Wilms tumor, but not **familial aniridia**?

The PAX6 gene and the Wilms tumor gene (called *WT1*) are adjacent to one another on chromosome 11p. *Inherited* genetic abnormalities leading to familial aniridia are located within the PAX6 gene itself, and thus do not affect the viability of the nearby *WT1*. In contrast, *sporadic* cases of aniridia are usually the result of the **wholesale deletion of a chunk of genetic material in the PAX6 'neighborhood.'** And since *WT1* is its next-door neighbor, it is often affected as well.

Does this 'neighborhood deletion effect' account for the other manifestations of the WAGR complex?

Indeed it does

What are the other components of the WAGR complex?

- Wilms tumor
- Aniridia
- Genitourinary abnormalities
- Retardation

True

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Because of the PAX6/ *WT1* spatial relationship, all infants presenting with sporadic aniridia **must** undergo genetic screening for the Wilms tumor defect.

If a child tests positive for the Wilms tumor defect, how should they be screened for Wilms tumor?

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Via periodic renal ultrasound

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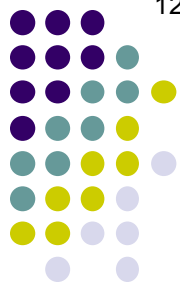
Via periodic renal ultrasound

How often, and for how long?

Every 3 months until age 7 years

True

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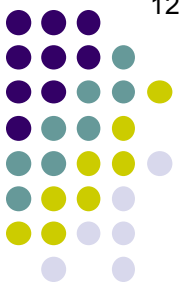
Aniridia: T/F

- Nystagmus is commonly associated True
- **Aniridia is associated with limbal stem cell deficiency True**
- Presents unilaterally and bilaterally in roughly equal rates False; it is almost always bilateral

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Associated condition	% of aniridia pts with the associated condition
<i>Limbal stem-cell deficiency</i>	?
<i>Glaucoma</i>	?
<i>Early-onset cataracts</i>	?

- Aniridia True
- Patient True
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Associated condition	% of aniridia pts with the associated condition
<i>Limbal stem-cell deficiency</i>	90
<i>Glaucoma</i>	To recap: 50+
<i>Early-onset cataracts</i>	50+

- Aniridia True
- Patient
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- **Aniridia is associated with glaucoma True**
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