

***PRIMARY RHEGMATOGENOUS RETINAL DETACHMENT AT
KASR AL AINI HOSPITAL: PREDISPOSING FACTORS AND
CLINICAL FEATURES.***

Protocol for thesis submitted for partial fulfillment of M.Sc. degree in
Ophthalmology

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Table of Contents

	Page
Acknowledgment.....	
Abstract.....	
List of abbreviations.....	i
List of tables.....	iii
List of figures.....	iv
Introduction.....	1
Aim of work.....	3
Review of literature.....	4
Chapter 1 : Pathogenesis & Mechanism of	
Rhegmatogenous Retinal Detachment.....	4
Chapter 2 : Clinical features & Predisposing factors	
of Primary Rhegmatogenous Retinal	
Detachment.....	9
Chapter 3 :Proliferative Vitreoretinopathy.....	26
Patients & Methods.....	32
Results.....	36
Discussion.....	50
Summary , Conclusion & Recommendations.....	57
References.....	60
Arabic Summary.....	

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Abstract

Purpose:

The purpose of this study was to investigate the patients' demographic characteristics, predisposing factors, clinical features, surgical interventions and intra-operative findings for patients with rhegmatogenous retinal detachment(RRD) who were hospitalized and operated at Kasr Al Aini hospital, over a time interval of 6 months.

Patients & Methods:

This is a prospective observational analytical epidemiological study that included patients with 1ry RRD who were admitted for surgical intervention at Kasr Al-Aini Teaching Hospital, Cairo University in a time period of 6 months starting from March 2013 to September 2013. The patients were selected from the outpatient Ophthalmology Clinic of Kasr Al-Aini Hospital. **The primary outcome measures** were the predisposing factors for the RRD (blunt trauma, myopia, previous cataract surgery, family history of RRD), and the clinical features of RRD (quadrants affected, macula on/off, number, types, location of breaks, presence and distribution of lattice, signs of posterior vitreous detachment(PVD) and presence and grading of proliferative vitreoretinopathy(PVR). **The secondary outcome measures** were the patients' demographic data.

Results:

Sixty five (65 eyes) patients were included of which 19 eyes (29.2%) had total RRD. The patients' age ranged from 3 to 80 years of age with a mean value of

45.65± 18.56 years. The study included 40 males (61.5%) and 25 females (38.5%) with a female to male ratio of 1:1.6. Twenty-two eyes (33.8%) had high myopia (> -6 D), 15 eyes (23.1%) were aphakic/pseudophakic, and 13 eyes (20%) with a history of blunt trauma. The macula was attached only in 3 cases (4.6%). The size of the breaks ranged from 0.25 to 4 clock hours with a mean of 1.15±0.96, 16 patients showed horse shoe tears, 16 patients showed holes, 3 patients showed giant tears, 4 patients showed dialysis, 2 patients showed slit shaped tears. In 24 (36.9%) patients in our study there was no break detected pre-operatively. Forty-four eyes (67.7%) had PVR-A, 11 eyes (16.9%) had PVR-B, and 10 eyes (15.4%) had PVR-C. Pars planavitrectomy (PPV) was done for 57 eyes (87.7%), of which 29 eyes had undergone phaco-vitrectomy (50.9%). Scleral buckling was done for 6 eyes (9.2%), and pneumatic retinopexy was done for 2 eyes (3.1%).

Conclusion:

This study showed that high myopia, peripheral retinal degenerations, pseudophakia/ aphakia, blunt ocular trauma and history of RD in the other eye, in a descending order were the main risk factors predisposing to RRD.

Keywords: Kasr Al Ainy Hospital; Rhegmatogenous retinal detachment; Predisposing pathology

List of Abbreviations

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>Full Name</i>
BCVA	Best Corrected Visual Acuity
BRB	Blood-Retinal-Barrier
CB	Ciliary Body
CE	Cataract Extraction
D	Diopter
DD	Disc Diameter
DM	Diabetes Mellitus
ECCE	Extra Capsular Cataract Extraction
ERM	Epiretinal membrane
HA	Hyaluronic Acid
H/O	History
HTN	Hypertension
ICCE	Intra Capsular Cataract Extraction
ILM	Internal Limiting Membrane
IOL	Intra ocular Lens
IOP	Intra ocular pressure
IPM	Inter-photoreceptor matrix
NSR	Neuro sensory retina
OCT	Optic Coherence Tomography
PC	Posterior Capsule

PPV	Pars Plana Vitrectomy
PVD	Posterior Vitreous Detachment
PVR	Proliferative Vitreo Retinopathy
RD	Retinal Detachment
RPE	Retinal Pigment Epithelium
RRD	Rhegmatogenous Retinal Detachment
SD	Standard Deviation
SE	Spherical Equivalent
SO	Silicone Oil
SRF	Subretinal Fluid
UK	United Kingdom
VA	Visual Acuity
VH	Vitreous Haemorrhage

List of Tables

<i>Table</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Page</i>
Table 1	Revised Grading System for Proliferative Vitreoretinopathy.	30
Table 2	The sex prevalence of RRD in each age group in our study.	37
Table 3	Pre-operative data in patients of our study.	39
Table 4	The lens status in each age group in our study.	40
Table 5	The prevalence of each predisposing factor in each age group in our study.	48

List of Figures

<i>Figure</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Page</i>
Fig. 1	Diagram showing uncomplicated PVD.	5
Fig. 2	The vitreous shows syneresis & PVD with partial collapse and retained attachment of the cortical vitreous to the flap of the tear.	7
Fig. 3	(A):Chorioretinal atrophy in high myopia. (B): Axial CT showing Left posterior staphyloma.	13
Fig. 4	Inferior RD in a highly myopic eye caused by giant tear along posterior border of extensive lattice degeneration & also notice lattice superiorly.	14
Fig. 5	(C): Lattice associated with RPE changes. (D): Small holes within lattice.	17
Fig. 6	Vitreous changes associated with lattice degeneration.	18
Fig. 7	Development of PVR.	31
Fig. 8	Bar chart showing the lens status in each age group in our study.	41

Fig. 9 → Fig. 18	Some retina charts drawn for patients in our study.	42-46
Fig. 19	Pie chart showing number of predisposing factors found in each patient in our study.	47
Fig. 20	Pie chart showing PVR Grading in our study.	49
Fig. 21	Pie chart showing type of surgery done in our study.	49

Introduction

The diagnosis of rhegmatogenous retinal detachment (RRD) is based on a case definition of "a full thickness break in the neurosensory retina with a surrounding area of sub-retinal fluid extending greater than 2 disc diameters"(**Polkinghorne& Craig, 2004**). Separation between the neurosensory retina and the underlying choroidal circulation results in ischemia and rapid progressive photoreceptor degeneration(**Yang et al, 2004**). Most cases of RRD present when the macula is involved and require intervention to restore vision or prevent further visual loss (**D'Amico et al, 2008**).

Predisposing associations and factors with RRD, such as high myopia, previous cataract surgery, direct ocular trauma, and peripheral retinal degenerations, are well established(**The Eye Disease Case-Control Study Group, 1993**). However, the incidence of these features and their relative contribution to RRD occurrence in populations are not well documented. Similarly, the occurrence of hereditary vitreoretinal degenerations in RRD populations is uncertain. Despite treatment advances, functional results remain poor, with only 42% achieving 6/12 vision if macula is attached and only 28% if the macula is involved(**Pastor et al, 2008**).

Although several risk factors for RRD have been identified, myopia is recognized as the most important factor in several reports(**The Eye Disease Case-Control Study Group, 1993**). RRD is also frequent after surgery for cataracts.

The estimated long-term incidence of pseudophakic RRD is in the range of 5 to 16 per 1000 cataract operations (**Ramos et al, 2002**), but is much higher in patients who are highly myopic, with a prevalence of up to 7% being reported in one study (**Hyams et al, 1975**)

Aim of work

In this study we evaluated & observed the patients' demographic characteristics, predisposing factors, clinical features, surgical interventions and intraoperative findings for patients with RRD who were hospitalized and operated at Kasr Al Aini hospital, over a time interval of 6 months.

Pathogenesis & Mechanism of Rhegmatogenous Retinal Detachment

The diagnosis of rhegmatogenous retinal detachment (RRD) is based on a case definition of "a full thickness break in the neurosensory retina with a surrounding area of sub-retinal fluid extending greater than 2 disc diameters"(Polkinghorne& Craig, 2004).

The pathogenesis of RRD is a complex process resulting from inherited and/or age-related changes in vitreous structure and vitreoretinal adhesion, which predispose to retinal break formation initiating separation of the neural retina from the underlying retinal pigment epithelium (RPE). The metabolic and physical properties of the RPE and neurosensory retina (NSR) in maintaining normal retinal adhesion are highly complex and once overwhelmed, caused disruption of normal photoreceptor anatomy, resulting in progressive visual loss (Mitry & Fleck et al, 2010).

The vitreous is a clear gel-like structure in the back of the eye composed of collagen fibrils and hyaluronic acid that slowly liquefies throughout life. These pockets of liquid can break through the posterior vitreous face and cause PVD from the retina. PVD is the most common cause of retinal tears which often lead to RRD (Hikichi et al, 1995). Although typically an acute event, posterior vitreous detachment is a consequence of life-long vitreous liquefaction and is highly age-dependent, occurring in less than 10% of patients younger than 60 years of age but in 27% of patients in the seventh decade of life and 63% of those in the eighth

decade of life(Foos& Wheeler, 1982); it occurs earlier in patientswho have myopia(Jaffe, 1968).

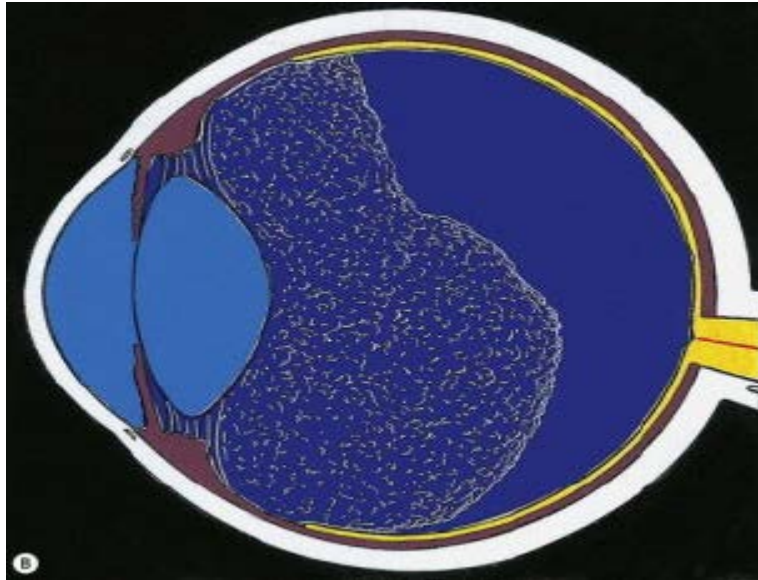


Fig. 1 :Diagram showing uncomplicated PVD.

(Jack J. Kanski& Brad Bowling)

Human vitreous undergoes an age-dependent process of liquefaction beginning in the central vitreous with the development of “lacunae” or pockets of liquefied vitreous that coalesce (Mitry& Fleck et al, 2010).

Two progressive changes occur in the aging vitreous: synchysis (progressive increase in liquefied spaces) and syneresis (an increase in optically dense structures) (Balazs et al, 1982). Ultrastructural studies suggest that there is lateral fusion of collagen fibrils, resulting in visually perceivable aggregates. The fusion of these fibrils results in a redistribution of the collagen fibrils, with an increased concentration in the residual gel but a decreased concentration of fibrils in other areas, resulting in liquefaction (Sebag&Balazs , 1989).