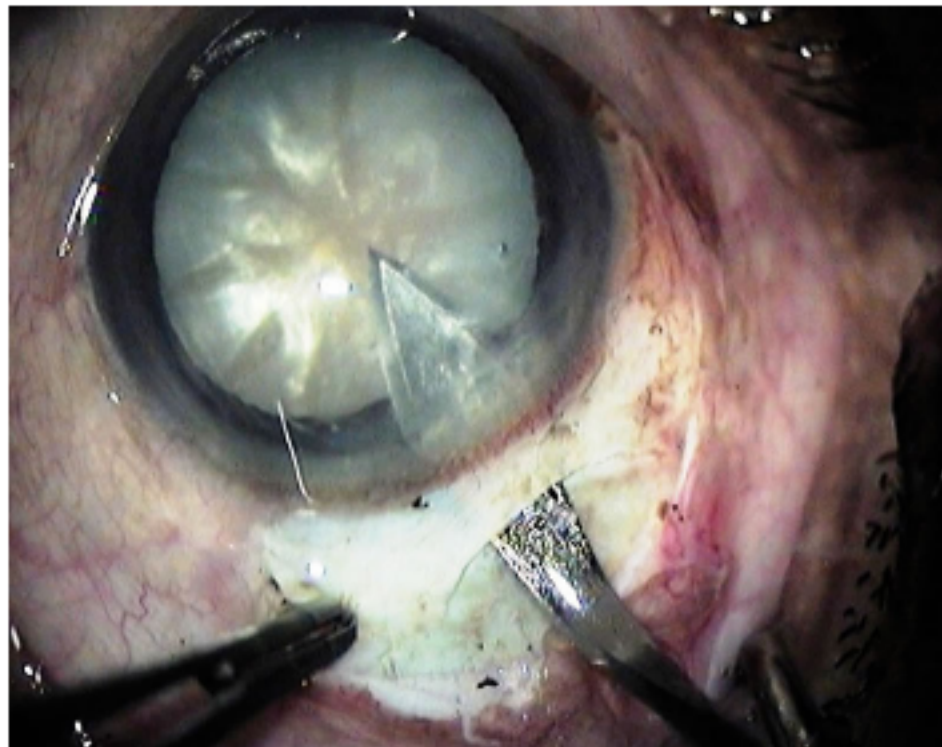


# CATARACT




***Definition:- Cataract is the opacity on or within the Crystalline lens of the eye which causes Visual impairment or blindness.***

- The lens is a biconvex transparent avascular structure with no nerve supply.
- It measures 9mm by 4mm and lies behind the Iris but in front of the anterior vitreous body.
- Cataract is one of the major causes of blindness worldwide.
- Can occur at any age but usually after 50 years of age.

## CAUSES

- Ageing process
- Trauma
- Inflammatory conditions in the eye
- Metabolic disorders like diabetes
- Tumours like retinoblastoma
- Excessive exposure to the sun
- Poor nutrition
- Acute Diarrhoea (Dehydration)
- Smoking
- Prolonged use of steroids



Types of classification of Cataract is done in various ways as shown below:

## TYPES OF CATARACTS

- Congenital
- Familial
- Senile or Age Related
- Traumatic
- Toxic
- Secondary



## 1. BASED ON DEGREE OF CATARACT

- Immature Cataract – Part of lens opaque
- Mature Cataract – Whole lens opaque
- Hyper mature Cataract – Lens has become dehydrated because water has escaped leaving a wrinkled capsule.
- intumescent – Swollen lens due to absorption of fluid.



## 2.MORPHOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION

- Cortical Cataract
- Nuclear Cataract
- Posterior Sub capsular Cataract

### 3. AGE RELATED CLASSIFICATION

- Congenital – Present at birth
- Infantile – within 1<sup>st</sup> year of life
- Juvenile – 1<sup>st</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> year of life
- Development 15<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> year of life
- Pre-senile 30<sup>th</sup> – 45<sup>th</sup> year of life
- Senile > 45 (50 years)

Congenital Cataract is usually caused by rubella or malnutrition in the first trimester of pregnancy. Child is born with a Cataract. Seen as white Pupil.



## CLINICAL PRESENTATION

- Glare
- Gradual loss of vision
- Decreased Visual Acuity
- White Pupil (Leucocoria)
- Visible opacity on the lens

## MANAGEMENT

Surgery is the main mode of improving vision.





## **METHODS/TYPES OF SURGERY**

- Intra Capsular Cataract Extraction (ICCE)
- Extra capsular Cataract Extraction (ECCE)
- Small incision Cataract Surgery (SICS)
- Phalco emulsification

## EARLY COMPLICATIONS

- Poor wound closure
- Aqueous leakage
- Iris Prolapse
- Striate Keratopathy
- Hyphaema
- Infection
- Iridocyclitis
- Pupil block and malignant glaucoma



## LATE COMPLICATIONS

- Retinal Detachment
- Cystoid Macular oedema
- Corneal oedema and bullous keratopathy
- Glaucoma
- Infection
- Chronic uveitis
- Thickening of Posterior lens capsule.