

HYPERTENSIVE RETINOPATHY

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- First response of arterioles to systemic hypertension is narrowing.
- Rehn picture shows vasodilation, leakage and arteriosclerosis.
- Vasoconstriction is characterised by generalised and focal arteriolar narrowing.
- Leakage is caused by abnormal vascular permeability leading to flame shaped haemorrhages, retinal oedema and hard exudates.
- Arteriosclerosis causes thickening of the vessels wall.

GRADING OF HYPERTENSIVE RETINOPATHY

- GRADE 1
- Consists of mild generalised arteriolar attenuation periculary of small branches.
- Broadening of arteriolar light reflex and vein concealment.
- GRADE 2
- Characterised by more severe generalised and focal arteriolar constriction associated with deflection of veins at arteriovenous crossings. This called as salus sign.
- GRADE 3
- Characterilisd by: Copper wiring of arterioles.
- Banking of veins distal to arteriovenous crossings. This is called Bonnets sign.
- Tapering of veins on either side of the crossings (Gunns sign).

GRADE 4

- Consists of all the above grade 3 changes as well as silver wiring of arterioles and disc swelling.
- MANAGEMENT- Laser photocoagulation with BP control