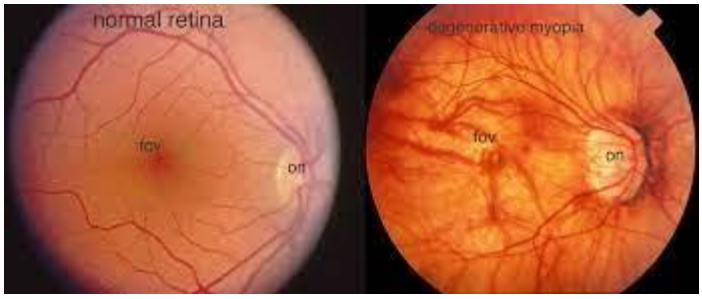
PATHOLOGICAL MYOPIA

Pathological myopia means that you are very short sighted and that this has caused degenerative changes to the back of your eye. Pathological myopia can cause a reduction in your sight that cannot be corrected with glasses or contact lenses. Pathologic myopia is usually an isolated condition with no systemic associations. However, it can also be associated with systemic conditions, such as Stickler syndrome, Marfan syndrome, and homocystinuria.

High myopia usually means that your eyeball is longer than normal. This lengthening of your eye causes your retina to become thinner and stretched. This stretching can lead to changes to the retina that can cause a reduction in your sight. Sight problems caused by pathological myopia cannot be corrected with glasses or contact lenses.



RISK FACTORS

Both environmental and genetic factors play a role in the development of myopia, which is further discussed in the corresponding article. Currently, the roles of known myopia-associated genetic variants have not been well established in the development of pathologic myopia. Primary risk factors for pathologic myopia include older age, greater axial length, and higher myopic spherical equivalent. Additional possible risk factors such as female gender, larger optic disc area and family history of myopia have been suggested. The role of education level in the development of pathologic myopia is currently unclear.

SYMPTOMS

Patients may be asymptomatic during the slowly progressive attenuations of the RPE and choroid. In the cases where central CNV or foveal schisis develop, the patient may note a focal area of blurring, metamorphopsia or scotoma that can rapidly cause serious decline in central vision. Peripheral CNV may go undetected.

DIAGNOSIS:

Fluorescein Anigiography is useful for evaluating myopic patients for development of CNV. In pathologic myopia, the development of CNV tends to be smaller and less exudative compared to CNV seen in AMD. Myopic CNV may appear as a focus of hyper fluourescence with a rim of hypoflourescence corresponding to hyperpigmentation at the border of the lesion.

REFERENCE:

https://eyewiki.aao.org/Pathologic_Myopia_(Myopic_Degeneration)

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