Tension Beneath the Surface: What is Pulling the Iris Back?

Tensão Sob a Superfície: O que está a Causar Retração da Íris?

Pedro Moreira Martins [1], João Castro Cabanas [1]

[1] Department of Ophthalmology, Unidade Local de Saúde de Gaia e Espinho, Gaia, Portugal

Recebido/Received: 2025-10-18 | **Aceite/Accepted:** 2026-03-24 | **Published online/Publicado online:** 2026-06-12

DOI: https://doi.org/10.48560/rspo.43655

KEYWORDS: Iris Diseases; Retinal Detachment.

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: Descolamento da Retina; Doenças da Íris.

A 65-year-old man presented with right eye vision loss following head trauma months earlier. Visual acuity was light perception; IOP was 3 mmHg with a hypotonic globe upon palpation. The anterior chamber was deep, with posterior iris retraction [B] and synechiae, evident on AS-OCT [C] and UBM [D], and associated with suprachoroidal fluid. Colour fundus photographs [A] revealed a 360º rhegmatogenous retinal detachment with nasal choroidal detachments. A diagnosis of iris retraction syndrome, caused by chronic retinal detachment, was entertained. The retinal detachment leads to secondary inflammation, with the formation of posterior synechiae, and fluid egress through the retinal pigment epithelium. This, combined with extensive proliferative vitreoretinopathy, generates a suction effect that drives antero-posterior traction on the lens-iris diaphragm, resulting in this rare and peculiar presentation.

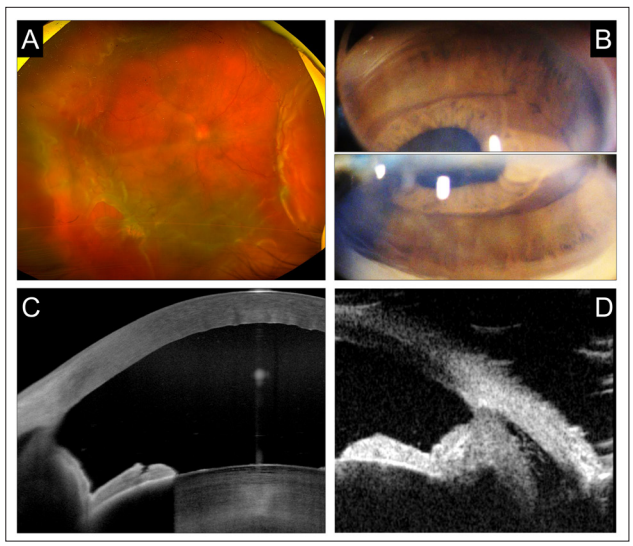

Figure 1. A - Widefield color fundus image; B - Gonioscopy photographs; C - Anterior segment OCT; D - UBM.

CONTRIBUTORSHIP STATEMENT / DECLARAÇÃO DE CONTRIBUIÇÃO

All authors participated significantly in the conception, writing, critical revision, and final approval of the article.

Todos os autores participaram de forma significativa na conceção, redação, revisão crítica e aprovação final do artigo.

RESPONSABILIDADES ÉTICAS

Conflitos de Interesse: Os autores declaram a inexistência de conflitos de interesse na realização do presente trabalho.

Fontes de Financiamento: Não existiram fontes externas de financiamento para a realização deste artigo.

Confidencialidade dos Dados: Os autores declaram ter seguido os protocolos da sua instituição acerca da publicação dos dados de doentes.

Consentimento: Consentimento do doente para publicação obtido.

Proveniência e Revisão por Pares: Não comissionado; revisão externa por pares.

ETHICAL DISCLOSURES

Conflicts of Interest: The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

Financing Support: This work has not received any contribution, grant or scholarship.

Confidentiality of Data: The authors declare that they have followed the protocols of their work center on the publication of patient data.

Patient Consent: Consent for publication was obtained.

Provenance and Peer Review: Not commissioned; externally peer-reviewed.

Corresponding Author/
Autor Correspondente:

Pedro Manuel Moreira Martins
Rua Conceição Fernandes S/N,
4434-502 Vila Nova de Gaia, Portugal
E-mail: pedromartins0123@gmail.com

ORCID: 0000-0002-4872-9058