

Images in clinical medicine



Urrets-Zavalía syndrome: report of 2 cases

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Received: 21 Jan 2022 - **Accepted:** 11 Mar 2022 - **Published:** 16 Mar 2022

Keywords: Areflexic mydriasis, penetrating keratoplasty, ocular hypertonia

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Cite this article: Islam Bechakh et al. Urrets-Zavalía syndrome: report of 2 cases. PAMJ Clinical Medicine. 2022;8(43). 10.11604/pamj-cm.2022.8.43.33409

Available online at: <https://www.clinical-medicine.panafrican-med-journal.com//content/article/8/43/full>

Urrets-Zavalía syndrome: report of 2 cases

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Image in medicine

Urrets-Zavalía syndrome characterized by areflexic mydriasis followed by progressive atrophy of the iris can occur after full thickness cornea transplant (penetrating keratoplasty). This is often associated with ocular hypertonia. We here report two cases. A 14-year-old girl with bilateral stage IV keratoconus, who underwent penetrating keratoplasty in the right eye. Immediate postoperative outcome was marked by the appearance of an inflammatory reaction of the anterior chamber with double-cross tyndall effect and pupillary fibrin membrane formation characterized by a tone of 23 mmHg at day 21. The patient received combination therapy based on corticosteroids (local and bolus), mydriatics, and hypnotics with inflammation recovery. However, mydriasis with pupillary areflexia persisted. Forty

years later, the patient had corrected visual acuity 09/10 with areflexic mydriasis and photophobia (A). The second patient was her twin sister who presented with bilateral stage IV keratoconus. She was operated following the same protocol. At day 1 after surgery corneal edema, tyndall effect and mydriasis occurred (B). At the fourth-year follow-up visit, corrected visual acuity was 08/10 with areflexic mydriasis associated with ectropion uvea.

Ischemic palsy of the iris sphincter can occur due to direct injury caused by surgical instruments or indirectly by the use of viscoelastic substances. The occurrence of urrets-zavalía syndrome after keratoplasty is not due to graft rejection and does not influence final visual acuity, as is the case with our two patients. Urrets-Zavalía syndrome is still a clinical reality in corneal transplants.

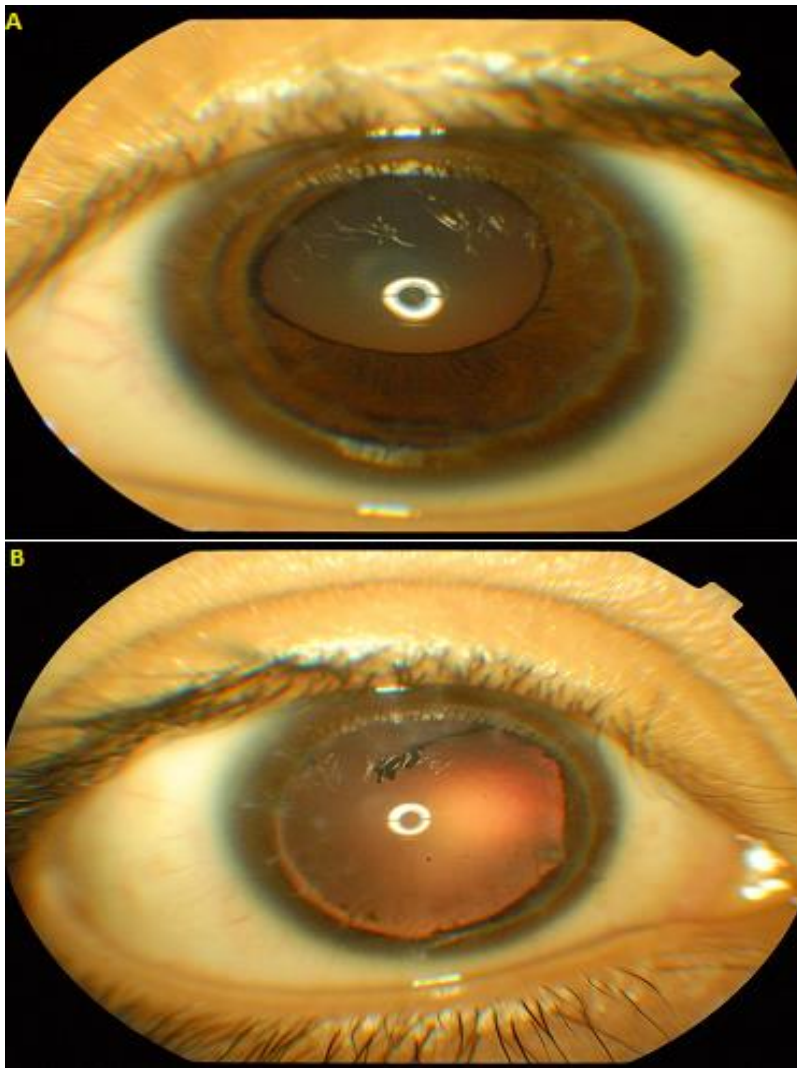


Figure 1: A) white light photographs of the anterior segment of the right eye; color radiograph showing penetrating keratoplasty. The diameter of the graft was 7.75 mm for a recipient cornea trepanned at 7.50 mm, the pupil in reflective mydriasis; B) white light photographs of the anterior segment of the right eye; color image showing full-thickness keratoplasty, areflexic mydriasis 7 mm in diameter associated with ectropion of the posterior uvea