



Spheroidal Degeneration: A Case Report

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Description of the case: An 80-year-old man was admitted to our hospital for progressive bilateral degradation of visual acuity in both eyes, and a history of foreign body sensation and chronic lacrimation. The patient worked outdoors for 25 years, in the desert.

His best-corrected visual acuity was hand motion in the right eye, and 4/10 in the left.

Slit lamp examination showed a dense, band-shaped, yellow-colored plaque of elevated nodules across the central cornea extending horizontally within the palpebral fissure in the right eye (Fig1). In addition, translucent, golden yellow, droplets located in the subepithelium of the left (Fig 2).

The patient was addressed for corneal transplantation, and was lost to follow up.

Spheroidal degeneration also called Climatic droplet keratopathy (CDK), Fisherman’s keratopathy (1), is an acquired and potentially handicapping corneal degenerative disease that is highly prevalent in certain areas with high exposure to ultraviolet light, low humidity, high wind, and presence of sand(2).

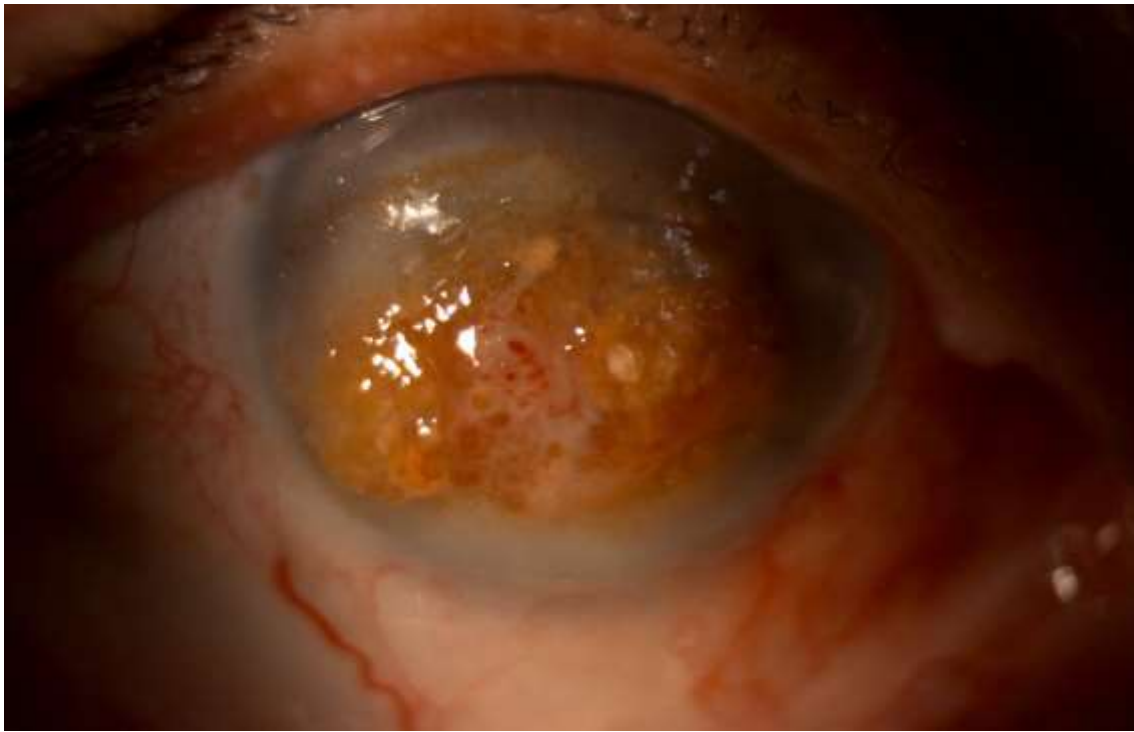


Figure 1: yellow- colored plaque extending within the palpebral fissure

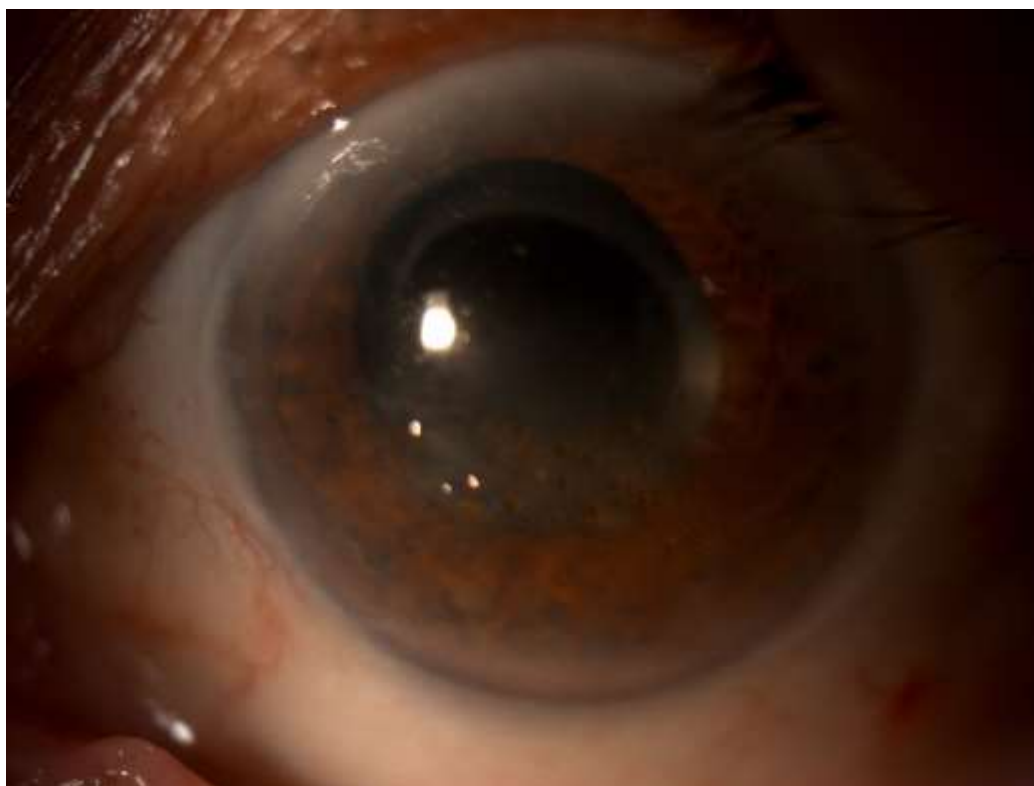


Figure 2: golden droplets located in the subepithelium

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