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Tuberous Sclerosis and Astrocytic Hamartoma

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Introduction

A 21-year-old man presented to our clinic for routine ocular examination. His visual acuity was 20/20 in both eyes. Anterior segment findings and intraocular pressures were unremarkable in both eyes. Fundus examination showed elevated, yellowish and calcified astrocytic hamartoma at the posterior pole in both eyes and next to the optic disc in the right eye (Figure 1 and Figure 2). He had fibromas on his face and back (Figure 3 and Figure 4).

The diagnosis of tuberous sclerosis was made early in his life. Ocular involvement occurs in approximately half of patients with tuberous sclerosis. Astrocytic hamartomas of the retina is the fundamental ocular manifestation of tuberous sclerosis. They generally do not grow, but over time some of the lesions may become calcified. Visual loss from retinal and optic nerve hamartomas rarely occurs. Because growth and change of the retinal lesions may seldomly occur, treatment is not indicated.



Figure 1: Astrocytic hamartoma at the posterior pole and next to the optic disc in the right eye.



Figure 2: Astrocytic hamartoma at the posterior pole in the left eye.



Figure 3: Fibromas on face.



Figure 4: Fibromas on back.