

Extensive commotio retinae involving peripheral retina



FIG 1. Fundus photomontage of the left eye shows peripheral retinal whitening (commotio retinae, arrow)

A 16-year-old boy was injured by a cricket ball a day before presenting to us. The left fundus showed large areas of whitish opacification of the peripheral retina (Fig. 1, arrow) suggestive of commotio retinae. Visual acuity was 6/6 and the whiteness resolved at 1 week without any pigmentation.

Following closed globe injury, commotio retinae occurs due to disruption of photoreceptor outer segments and is not true oedema. It may occur at the macula, manifesting as a cherry red spot (Berlin's oedema) and/or it can involve the peripheral retina. Commotio retinae commonly resolves spontaneously without sequelae. There is no known treatment.

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