

TRAUMATIC HYPHEMIA

By Herman Shurin, O.D.

Patient, a young married woman, age 22, was struck in the right eye by a large piece of metal the preceding week. Her eye physician prescribed argyrols at that time; the right eye was swollen shut with painful, shooting pains, worse at night than in daytime. When she closed the left eye, she felt that she could see nothing with the right eye. Naked Vision R. E. 75%, L. E. 100%, Jaeger No. 1.

External examination: Right Eye: Upper right lid was considerably swollen and congested. Lower lid did not appear to be swollen. Hyphemia – the aqueous chamber up to the lower half of the pupil was full of blood; upper right lid had been cut. There was also a cut and contusion in area of right lacrymal sac. The tissue over the lachrymal canals was swollen. Left Eye: Completely negative. Size of pupil 4.5 mm; photopupil contraction to 3 mm. Internal examination: Right eye: the pupillary opening was quite clouded – impossible to see fundus. Left Eye: Entire fundus picture is negative.

We found out that when she was lying down, the blood in the anterior chamber covered the pupillary area, and she was right in her statement that she did not see with that eye; this was true, however, only when she was recumbent; when she was sitting up, the blood was in the lower part of the chamber and thus she had been able to have the visual acuity noted above.

Syntonic Rx No 1 (ω omega; υω Upsilon Omega D; μυ Mu Upsilon) was used, and changed to Syntonic Rx No. 2, (υω ; μυ) when it seemed advisable. Field charts were run. The right eye fields for all colors except white were inside of the 20 degree circle, varying down to 5 degree, whereas, in the left eye the smallest was 18 degrees for green to 60 degree for blue. This first field chart was taken one week after treatment had begun. The fields for white and motion in both eyes were good. There was interlacing of green over red at that time Δ morning test as well as in the afternoon test, at which time, however, the fields were much larger. When taken one week later, fields for both eyes were identical, the smallest field for green in the interlacing was present; white and motion went out to 90 degrees temporally. The hyphemia cleared up completely with all clotting absorbed. The ecchymosis in the surrounding tissue cleared up too. The vision was normal without lasses for distance and near.

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