Oculo-Cutaneous Albinism

Anchal Thakur, Amit Gupta and Sabia Handa

Department of Ophthalmology, Advanced Eye Centre, Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Sector 12, Chandigarh, India

Received date: April 29, 2019; Accepted date: May 03, 2019; Published date: May 10, 2019


Copyright: ©2019 Thakur A, et al. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

Clinical Image

A 56-year-old man with Oculo-Cutaneous Albinism (OCA) complained of gradually decreasing vision in the left eye. He had fair skin and blond hair and cilia. On examination, his visual acuity was 20/300 in the right eye and hand motions in the left eye. He had bilateral iris trans-illumination defects, grade II nuclear opalescence, and pendular nystagmus. None of the family members had nystagmus. Phacoemulsification with three-piece posterior chamber intraocular lens was performed under topical anesthesia in the left eye. Postoperatively, visual acuity in the left eye improved to 20/200. Slit lamp bio-microscopic examination on retro illumination shows a well-centered acrylic intraocular lens in the capsular bag (Figure 1). OCA is an autosomal recessive disorder caused by mutations in genes that control the synthesis of melanin within the melanocytes. 1 in 20,000 people worldwide are born with oculo-cutaneous albinism. Foveal hypoplasia is the major cause of diminution of vision since childhood, but development of cataract in such patients can be visually impairing leading to progressive decrease in vision. We believe cataract surgery with IOL implantation although challenging is beneficial in the treatment of cataracts in patients with oculo-cutaneous albinism.

Figure 1: A well-centered acrylic intraocular lens in the capsular bag.

Conflicts of Interest and Source of Funding

None.