

Bilateral and diffuse bear tracks

Hypertrophie congénitale de l'épithélium pigmentaire bilatérale et diffuse

A 42-year-old woman had been diagnosed with bilateral congenital hypertrophy of the retinal pigment epithelium (CHRPE) in childhood. She had no visual symptoms and no family history of familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP) or colon cancer. Visual acuity was 20/20 in both eyes. Fundus examination revealed bilateral typical widespread large congenital hypertrophy of the retinal pigment epithelium lesions (Fig. 1,2 – close vues right and left ; Fig. 3,4 - autofluorescence imaging right and left) with surrounding smaller satellite lesions (multi-focal CHRPE, also called “bear tracks”).

CHRPE is benign but it can be an indicator of FAP carrier status in relatives of an index case with a known APC mutation, especially when the lesions are bilateral and multiple. However, there is no consensus for colonoscopy screening in the general population with CHRPE lesions and no history of colorectal polyps or cancer. In those patients, colonoscopy and genetic testing would generally be considered if the CHRPE lesions are atypical, which means oval or fishtail-like and more isolated in position [1]. The present case is unusual because of the extent of CHRPE lesions in both eyes. However, colonoscopy was not indicated as the bear tracks had a typical aspect. To the best of our knowledge only one similar case has been reported so far and no APC mutation was found [2].

Disclosure of interest

The authors declare that they have no competing interest.

References

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajoc.2019.100524>.
- [2] Marmoy OR, Blackwell C, Cornelius S, Thompson DA, Henderson RH. Diffuse bear-track retina: profound, bilateral, grouped congenital pigmentation of the retinal pigment epithelium in an infant. *J AAPOS* 2020;24:384–6.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaapos.2020.08.003>.

Legend

Figure 1-2. Bilateral widespread congenital hypertrophy of the retinal pigment epithelium, right eye fundus (1) and left eye fundus (2).

Figure 3-4. Autofluorescence imaging of the right eye fundus (3) and the left eye fundus (4).