Inflammatory deposits on the foldable intraocular lens

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Key words: Inflammatory giant cell deposits, IOL deposits, IOL histopathology

A 59-year-old female presented with visual acuity of 6/18, N8 in her left eye, 10 years after combined cataract and glaucoma surgery. Slit-lamp examination revealed a quiet eye with multiple deposits on the intraocular lens (IOL) which could not be removed by YAG laser or manual scraping [Fig. 1a]. Histopathological evaluation of explanted IOL revealed multiple histiocytes on the optic surface and multinucleated giant cells on the haptic surface [Fig. 1b-d]. Giant cells, visible on slit lamp as sharp, round, or oval spots with or without pigmentation, usually occur within 2 years after implantation.^[1]

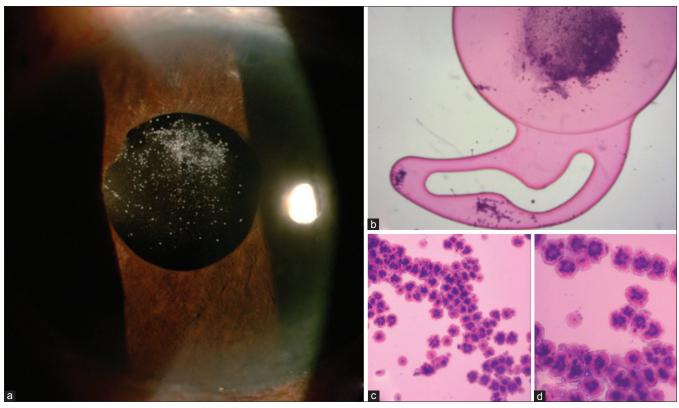


Figure 1: (a) Slit-lamp photograph showing sharp white round deposits within the IOL optic (b) Optic and haptic surface showing chronic granulomatous inflammation (Hydrophilic Acrylic IOL with plate loop haptics; H and E stain; original magnification 10×). (c and d) Optic surface showing numerous histiocytic cells and haptic showing numerous multinucleated giant cells; H and E stain; original magnification 400× and 500×)

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The most conspicuous factor in the development of an inflammatory giant cell reaction, after combined cataract and glaucoma surgery, is IOL design whereby silicone plate IOLs show greater reaction compared with 3-piece acrylic IOLs.^[2] Increased intraoperative manipulation involved in combined surgery is responsible for these inflammatory deposits, hence the choice of IOL becomes extremely important in such cases. IOL removal is imperative when they become visually significant.

Declaration of patient consent

A written informed consent was taken from the patient. Ethics committee approval was obtained.

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Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

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