Uveitis: Current Practices in Ophthalmology



Uveitis (Current Practices in Ophthalmology)

by Ronan Hession

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Uveitis is a relatively rare but serious eye condition that can lead to blindness if not treated promptly. It is characterized by inflammation of the uvea, which is the middle layer of the eye and contains the iris, ciliary body, and choroid.

Causes

The exact cause of uveitis is often unknown. However, it is thought to be caused by an autoimmune reaction, in which the body's immune system attacks its own tissues. Other possible causes include infections, trauma, and certain systemic diseases.

Symptoms

The symptoms of uveitis vary depending on the location and severity of the inflammation. Common symptoms include:

* Eye pain * Redness * Blurred vision * Floaters * Light sensitivity * Headache

Diagnosis

Uveitis is diagnosed based on a comprehensive eye exam. The doctor will look for signs of inflammation, such as redness, swelling, and fluid in the eye. They may also order tests to rule out other possible causes of the symptoms.

Treatment

The treatment of uveitis depends on the underlying cause. If the cause is known, the doctor will treat the underlying condition. In many cases, uveitis is treated with topical medications, such as corticosteroids and antibiotics. In more severe cases, oral or intravenous medications may be necessary.

Prognosis

The prognosis for uveitis depends on the severity of the inflammation and the underlying cause. With early diagnosis and treatment, most people with uveitis recover fully. However, some people may experience permanent vision loss.

Prevention

There is no sure way to prevent uveitis. However, there are some things you can do to reduce your risk, such as:

* Wearing sunglasses to protect your eyes from the sun's harmful UV rays * Washing your hands frequently to avoid eye infections * Avoiding contact with people who have eye infections * Getting regular eye exams

Uveitis is a serious eye condition that can lead to blindness if not treated promptly. However, with early diagnosis and treatment, most people with uveitis recover fully. If you are experiencing any of the symptoms of uveitis, it is important to see an ophthalmologist right away.



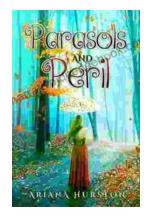
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