

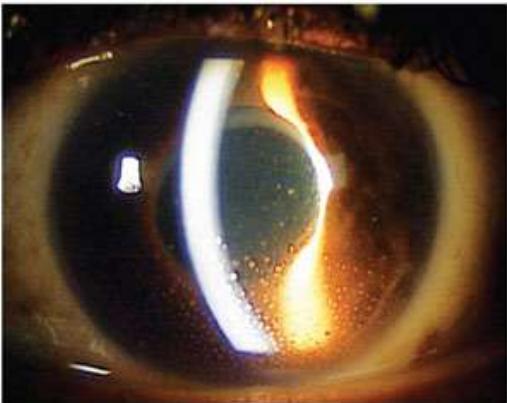
The Quick Summary

You have inflammation in your eye, which is NOT the same as infection. This is usually an autoimmune problem with no other cause identified. We will treat this episode and may need to do some testing.

Anterior Uveitis

Dr. Shalwala sees some tiny dots floating inside your eye, which indicates that it is inflamed. Inflammation is NOT the same as infection. Sometimes, infection can cause inflammation in the eye, but you most likely do NOT have an infection.

Why is there inflammation in your eye? This is probably an isolated autoimmune disease of the eye. That means that your body is overreacting and attacking your eye. We are not usually sure why someone's eye overreacts in this way and most other people's eyes don't.



The treatment for this involves steroid eye drops, which we will prescribe for you. We usually want to hit this very hard right away at the beginning, so you might need to take a lot of steroid eye drops per day. It might even be as often as every hour during the day, with morning and evening "loading." This "loading" means that you take 4-5 drops back to back right after you wake up and right before you go to sleep. These back to back drops compensate a little bit for the fact that you won't be up taking drops at night.

If this is your first episode of inflammation in your eye (sometimes called "iritis"), we might just be able to treat it with steroid eye drops and then not worry about

it. Sometimes we do some testing to look for known causes of this type of inflammation, but we might skip that testing if this is your first episode. However, you should be aware that inflammation in your eye might happen again. If it happens again, we will definitely need to do that testing.

One other important thing to know is that the inflammation will likely go away once we hit it hard with steroids, but we will taper you off of steroid drops **very slowly**. It might feel painfully slow. However, if we rush this at all, the inflammation can re-flare, and we might have to start the treatment plan all over. That's why it is better to take it slowly the first time around.

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<http://ajayshalwalmd.com/>