

The Quick Summary

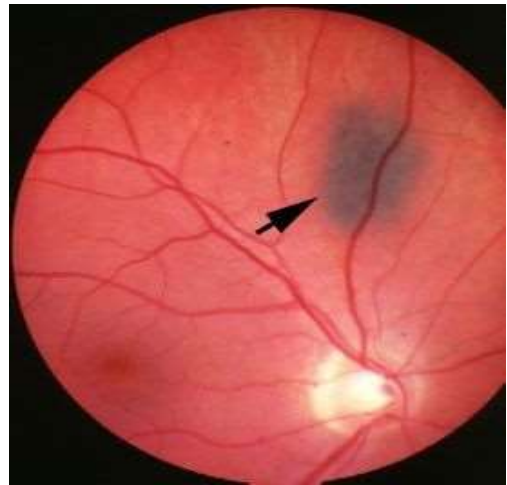
You have nothing to worry about. There is a mole in the back of your eye that you will probably never notice.

Choroidal Nevus

Looking in the back of your eye, Dr. Shalwala notices a small spot that looks like a mole. It is very common to have moles in the back of your eye, just like it is common to have moles on your skin in the rest of your body.

If you've ever seen a doctor about any moles on your skin, you probably know that the most important thing to do is to monitor for any changes in the mole. The same thing is true for the mole inside your eye, but the problem is that you can't look at it and see if it has changed, because it is inside your own eye!

In fact, only an eye doctor can look inside your eye and monitor for these types of changes. Frequently, we will get a photograph of the mole so that we can compare your exam to the picture we have of your eye rather than just the description in our chart (as you know, a picture is worth a thousand words).



Almost everybody who has a mole never has a change, and we just monitor them. However, some people do have changes in their moles, which can, in the worst cases, represent a cancer called choroidal melanoma. Even though most moles we monitor never change, we don't know how to pick out the ones that will change. That's why we can't take a chance and have to monitor everybody.

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