A Bilateral Christmas tree Cataract Case

*Corresponding Author: Sima Sheikhghomi
Eye Research Center, Farabi Eye Hospital, Tehran
University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran.
Email: sshaikhghomi@yahoo.com

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Clinical image description

This photograpsh belongs to a 75-year-old diabetic woman who presented to our clinic with bilateral progressive decreasing vision from a few years ago. She had a best-corrected visual acuity of count finger at 2 ms in her right eye and 20/200 in the left one by the Snellen chart. On the slit lamp examination, multiple clusters of poly chromatic and highly reflective needle-like crystals were seen within the cortex of the lenses of both eyes. In this case, the patient also had a Moderate to severe non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy and macular ischemia in her both eyes, which was the main cause of reduction of her vision.

Christmas tree cataract is a rare type of lenticular opacity with a unique appearance. It is usually an incidental finding in slit lamp examination and is usually idiopathic but some studies have revealed that there is some association between early onset of this type of cataract with systemic diseases like dystrophic myotony [1,2].

Figure 1: Christmas tree cataract within the cortex of the lens of the both eye.

References
