

Retina and Alzheimer's

Eye Camera Shows Alzheimer's Protein

"Fundus Camera Provides Detailed Photos of Neurological Diseases Including Alzheimer's"



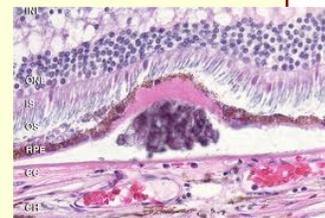
The retina is the photographic plate of the eye and is directly connected to the brain through the optic nerve. The Fundus Camera is used to create a photograph of the interior surface of the eye, including the retina, optic disc, and macula. The photographs allow an eye doctor

to evaluate the health of blood vessels, the optic nerve, optic disc, and scout for glaucoma, macular degeneration, and Alzheimer's disease. Small yellow balls are "drusen" now tied to Alzheimer's. We know this thanks to 25 years of research by Dr. Anderson of UC Santa Barbara.

Revealing Eye

At a major eye research conference (ARVO), UK scientists presented a study investigating Fundus retinal imaging to diagnose Alzheimer's dementia in the eye. Retinal images of 102 subjects, of which 56 were AD patients and 46 were age-matched controls, we analyzed.

The study revealed a highly significant association between AD and peripheral small hard drusen formation, suggesting that monitoring the peripheral part of the retina might become a valuable tool in the detection and monitoring of the progression of AD. "This potentially contributes to a diagnosis of dementia," the researchers said.



Eye Disease = Brain Disease

Drusen In the Eye Contains Alzheimer's Protein.

In 2003, scientists at the Center for Macular Degeneration at UC, Santa Barbara found a link between the brain of Alzheimer's patients and the drusen deposits in their retina that are associated with macular degeneration. Dr. Anderson of the study, said that both diseases appear to begin with the development of inflammation and the appearance of a type



of plaque called beta amyloid found in drusen in the eye and also in the brain. The authors conclude that inflammation is an early component to both diseases.

The Fundus camera is a non-invasive, simple, and inexpensive way to measure drusen and contribute to a

diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease.