

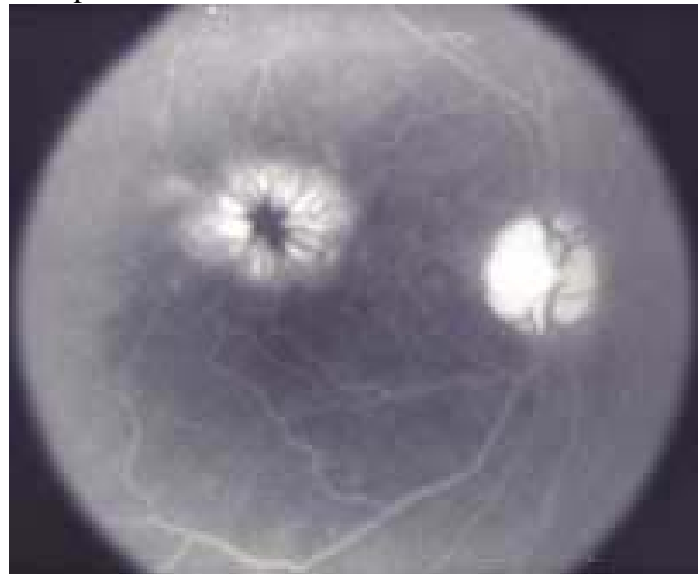


Cystoid Macular Edema

Cystoid Macular Edema (CME) is a swelling of the macula, which is responsible for detailed central vision. Although the exact cause is not known, CME can be the result of a disease, injury, or even after an eye surgery. Fluid collects within the layers of the macula, causing blurred, distorted central vision. CME rarely causes a permanent loss of vision, but the recovery is often a slow, gradual process.

CME is a painless swelling/inflammation of the macula. Blurry central vision, color distortion, and light sensitivity are all common symptoms of CME. The severity of blurred vision can be minimal to severe. Peripheral (side) vision usually remains intact. However, the condition may be present even when no visual loss occurs.

Since many factors can lead to CME, it is not possible to say which treatment, if any, will prove effective. After the diagnosis has been made and confirmed, Dr. Currier may attempt several kinds of treatment or may just observe the situation. Signs of retinal inflammation are usually treated with anti-inflammatory medications, including cortisone-like drugs (steroid drops, pills or local injections).



If the vitreous (the clear, gel-like substance that fills the center of the eye) is believed to be the source of the problem, laser surgery might be recommended. Another procedure called a vitrectomy can be used to suction the vitreous out of the eye and replace it with a clear solution.

Dr. Currier can detect CME by doing a dilated eye examination and seeing a central yellow spot and loss of the normal foveal reflex. Dr. Currier may do additional testing, treatments, or observation depending on the situation and severity to monitor the condition.