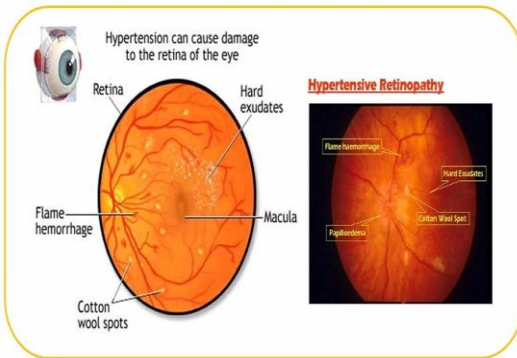


HYPERTENSION RETINOPATHY

What is it?

High Blood Pressure can present itself in many forms of symptoms and if left untreated it can ultimately be life-threatening. One of the life-threatening outcomes of uncontrolled high blood pressure is hypertension retinopathy. Hypertension retinopathy is defined as the thickening of the vessel walls in the retina as a result of high blood pressure. This thickening of the vessel walls impedes the flow of blood, causing a reduction in blood supply to the retina. If left untreated, it can lead blood to leak into the retina causing loss of vision, dilation and twisting of the retinal veins, and the swelling of the optic disk.



Diagnosing HTN Retinopathy

Hypertension retinopathy can be diagnosed through retinal images using the fundoscopic test. This test allows doctors to see inside the eye. Doctors will look for signs such as arteriolar constriction, AV nicking, vascular wall changes.

Symptoms

- Reduced vision
- Swelling of the eye
- Double vision
- Headaches