

# Uveitis: An Update

**Nils Norrsell**

Uveitis is a common cause of blindness worldwide. It is a complex disease with many different causes and can affect people of all ages. Uveitis is characterized by inflammation of the uvea, the middle layer of the eye. The uvea is made up of the iris, ciliary body, and choroid. Inflammation of the uvea can lead to a variety of symptoms, including pain, redness, floaters, and blurred vision.



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★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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There are many different causes of uveitis. Some of the most common causes include:

- Autoimmune diseases, such as rheumatoid arthritis and lupus
- Infections, such as tuberculosis and syphilis
- Trauma
- Certain medications

The diagnosis of uveitis is based on a combination of symptoms and physical examination findings. Your doctor may also order blood tests or imaging studies to help confirm the diagnosis.

Treatment for uveitis depends on the underlying cause. In some cases, treatment may not be necessary. However, in more severe cases, treatment may include medications, surgery, or a combination of both.

Medications for uveitis include corticosteroids, immunosuppressive drugs, and antibiotics. Corticosteroids are used to reduce inflammation. Immunosuppressive drugs are used to suppress the immune system. Antibiotics are used to treat infections.

Surgery for uveitis may be necessary to remove scar tissue or to repair damage to the eye. Surgery may also be necessary to treat complications of uveitis, such as glaucoma or cataracts.

The prognosis for uveitis depends on the underlying cause and the severity of the disease. With early diagnosis and treatment, most people with uveitis can achieve good vision.

## **New Treatments for Uveitis**

There are a number of new treatments for uveitis that are currently being investigated. These new treatments include:

- Biologic therapies
- Gene therapy
- Stem cell therapy

Biologic therapies are a type of medication that targets specific proteins in the immune system. Gene therapy involves inserting new genes into cells in order to correct genetic defects. Stem cell therapy involves transplanting stem cells into the eye in order to repair damaged tissue.

These new treatments are still in the early stages of development, but they have the potential to revolutionize the treatment of uveitis.

### **New Diagnostic Techniques for Uveitis**

There are also a number of new diagnostic techniques for uveitis that are currently being developed. These new techniques include:

- Optical coherence tomography
- Fundus autofluorescence
- Spectral-domain optical coherence tomography

Optical coherence tomography is a non-invasive imaging technique that can produce detailed images of the retina and choroid. Fundus autofluorescence is a non-invasive imaging technique that can detect changes in the fluorescence of the retina. Spectral-domain optical coherence tomography is a newer imaging technique that provides even more detailed images of the retina and choroid.

These new diagnostic techniques are helping doctors to more accurately diagnose and monitor uveitis.

Uveitis is a serious disease that can lead to blindness. However, with early diagnosis and treatment, most people with uveitis can achieve good vision. There are a number of new treatments and diagnostic techniques for

uveitis that are currently being developed. These new treatments and techniques have the potential to improve the outcomes for people with uveitis.

If you are experiencing any of the symptoms of uveitis, it is important to see your doctor right away.

## References

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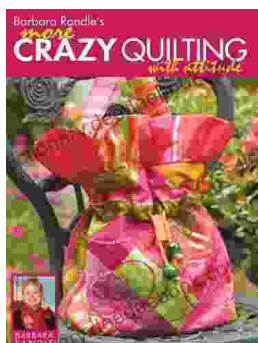
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