

Myotonic Dystrophy

Is characterised by muscle weakness and wasting which is usually progressive. Types of muscles involved are usually in the face, jaw and neck area; the large, weight-bearing muscles of the legs and thighs are much less affected.

Rate of deterioration is commonly slow, with little change over a long period; some people never have significant muscle disability.

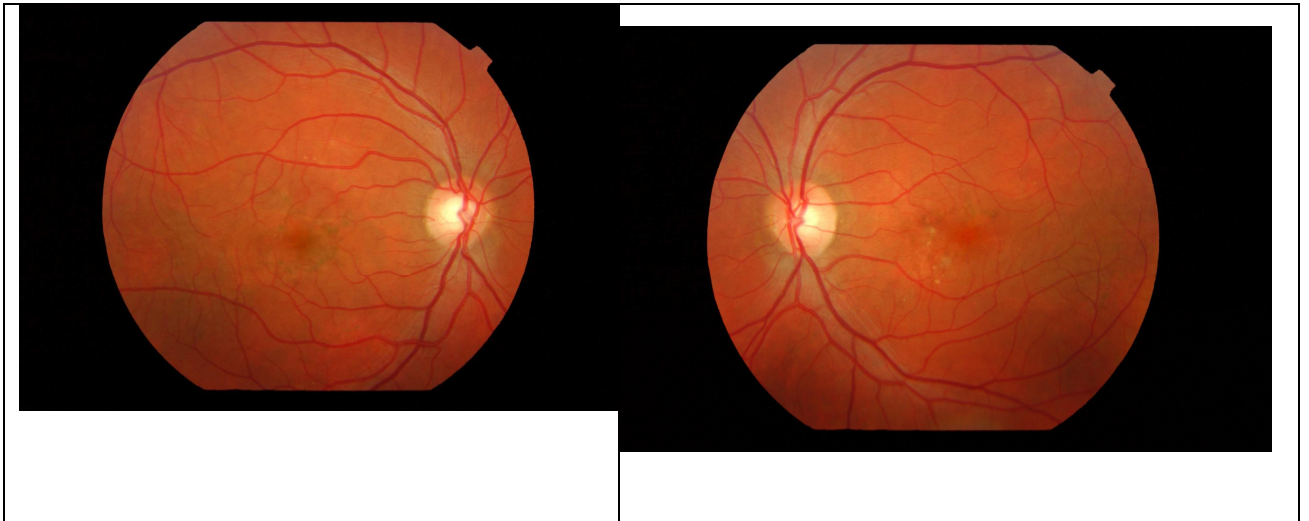
Muscle stiffness or 'myotonia' is characteristic, especially affecting the hands.

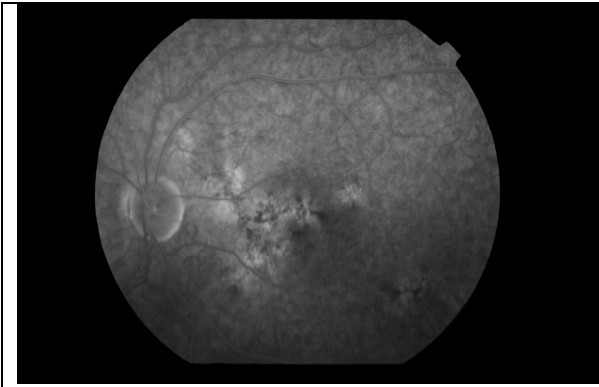
Involvement of other body systems is frequent; associated problems may include cataracts, disturbance of heart rhythm, hormonal problems and, in children, learning difficulties.

Age at onset is very variable. Symptoms may appear at any time from birth to old age.

Ocular Features

25% of Patients have some evidence of retinal degeneration/changes in the back of the eye. A variety of changes have described from pigment clumping, yellow flecks, pattern dystrophies.





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