Examination of Cornea Verticillata for Fabry Disease

Cornea verticillata (CV) is the manifestation of glycolipid deposition in the corneal epithelium. It is usually golden-brown in appearance and most concentrated in the inferonasal cornea. There is a whorl-like distribution to the deposition.

One can examine for CV by angling the slit beam and moving it slowly across the entire corneal epithelium. CV can have variable expression. In some patients, it is conspicuously evident with a direct light and without use of the slit lamp. In others, one must examine the anterior portion of the cornea multiple times to pick up the whorl-like pattern.

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