

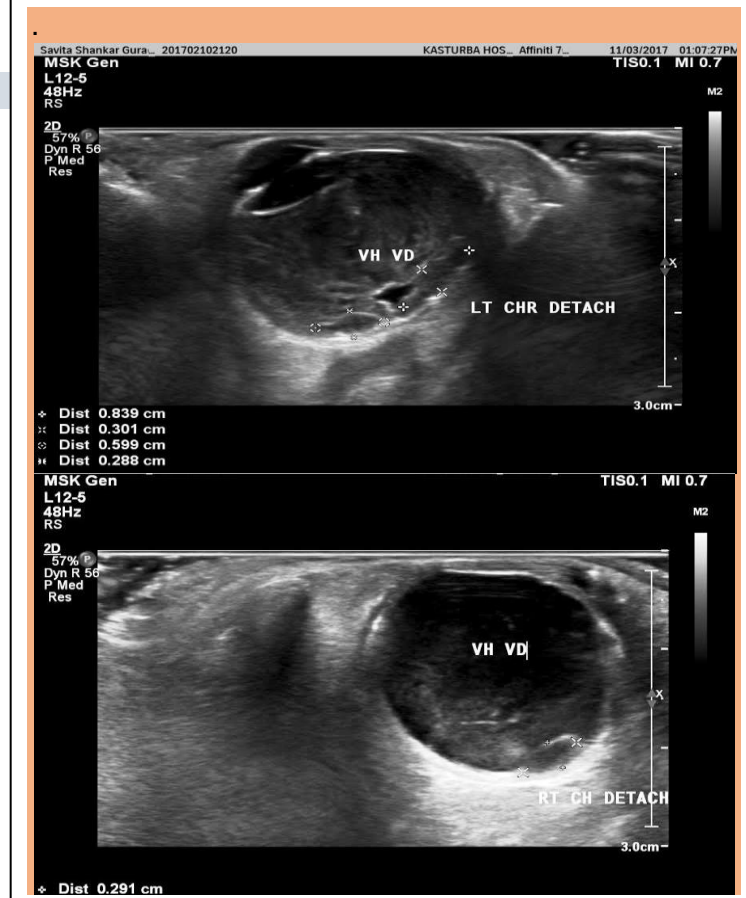
An Unusual Case of Bilateral Vitreous Hemorrhage Following Snakebite



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Introduction: Snakebite is a common medical emergency, particularly in rural and farming areas. Poisonous snakes can be neurotoxic or hemotoxic. Neurotoxins are found in elapids and hemotoxins are found in viperids. Ocular complications in a case of snakebite are rare^{2,3}, but they do occur and need emergency medical attention. Direct exposure to venom⁴ of a poisonous snake can cause injury to lids, conjunctiva or cornea. In this case report, we are presenting a rarely reported ocular complication of snakebite i.e. bilateral vitreous hemorrhage.



Case summary: A 26 years old female with history of snakebite one month back, transferred to Eye ward from Surgical ward in view of painless, sudden onset, loss of vision of both eyes which developed 4-5 days after the snakebite. She was admitted in surgical ward for management of complicated ulcer over the site of snakebite. She was given blood transfusion twice to combat severe anemia due to probable hemotoxic type of snake venom added with blood loss from the ulcer. On ocular examination vision of right eye was hand movement close to face with accurate projection of rays and left eye vision was perception of light with inaccurate projection of rays. Slit lamp bio-microscopic examination and dilated fundus ophthalmoscopic evaluation revealed vitreous hemorrhage in both eyes which was confirmed in ocular USG B-scan. Patient was advised bed rest, vitamin-C tablets, oral steroids and elective vitrectomy.

References:

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