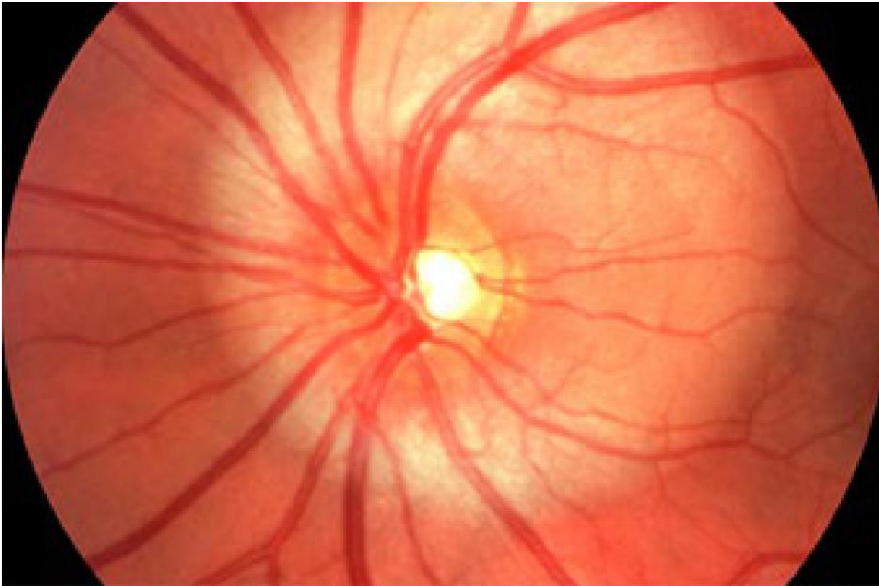




Retinal Vein Occlusion (RVO)



Overview

This is a blockage of tiny veins in your eye. Normally, these veins carry blood away from your retina (the layer of light-sensing cells at the rear of your eye). When the veins are blocked, your vision can be harmed.

Causes

What causes this blockage? Most often, it's linked to atherosclerosis. That's a buildup of a sticky, fatty substance we call "plaque" on the inner walls of your arteries. When this happens in your eye, the arteries become thick and hard. They press harmfully against retinal veins. This blocks the flow of blood.

Symptoms

If you have this blockage, you may notice a sudden blurring of your vision. You may have vision loss in part or all of one eye. Without proper care, retinal vein occlusion can lead to serious complications. You can lose your vision permanently.

Treatment

Treatment options include medications and laser surgery. You'll also need to manage problems like diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol. Your doctor will create a care plan that's right for you.