What is noninfectious uveitis affecting the back part of the eye?

An inflammatory disease of the uvea

Three parts of the uvea (or uveal tract)—the middle layer of the eye

- A muscular disk with an opening at the center (the pupil) that allows light into the eye
- Gives eyes their color
- Helps you see at different light levels by changing the size of the pupil to increase or decrease the amount of light entering the eye
- A muscular ring surrounding the lens of the eye
- Changes the shape of the lens to focus your vision
- Feeds the front part of the eye by releasing a fluid called “aqueous humor”
- Layer of tissue and blood vessels surrounding the retina
- Feeds and keeps the back of the eye healthy

The inflammation is noninfectious

- Often, no specific cause is found (such as bacteria or viruses)
- May be an autoimmune reaction—when the body mistakes some of its own cells for foreign invaders
- May result from disease in another part of the body

The inflammation affects the back part of the eye

- May include the ciliary body and the choroid
- May also involve the retina and retinal blood vessels

Parts of the eye that may be inflamed

- Choroid
- Ciliary body
- Retina

The human eye

Uveal tract

- Vitreous gel
- Choroid
- Ciliary body
- Iris
- Cornea
- Pupil
- Lens

Retina, Macula, Fovea, Optic nerve

Back part of the eye
What is noninfectious uveitis affecting the back part of the eye? (continued)

Are there symptoms?
- Decreased vision
- Small black spots (floaters)
- Usually painless

Significant vision loss may occur if the retina is affected

Can the inflammation cause other problems?
Cloudiness (called “vitreous haze”) may occur if immune cells enter the gel (vitreous) that fills the back part of the eye
- Caused by inflammation
- May contribute to decreased vision

Possible long-term complications
- Reduced vision due to eye damage
- Recurrences over months to years

Talking to your doctor is very important
- Medical treatments are available
- Your doctor will discuss these options with you

Vitreous haze
Looking inside a healthy eye
Looking inside an eye with vitreous haze

An educational resource provided by
ALLERGAN

©2013 Allergan, Inc., Irvine, CA 92612  APC40WA13  123488