





FLOATERS

INDICATES

- Some form of vitreous degeneration and liquefaction and are usually benign and age related; they are also common at a younger age in myopes.

- Showers of dots or a sudden increase in their numbers → Indicate the formation of a retinal tear

- Sometimes the onset of new floaters is secondary to vitreous haemorrhage, often caused by advanced diabetic retinopathy.

CAUSE

- Normally transparent vitreous gel liquefies and breaks up, leading to the presence of little particles and fibrous strands floating in the vitreous cavity, with age.

- Debris casts shadows onto the retina.

COMPLAINTS

- Black dots, rings, strands, 'spiderlike' images that are more noticeable against a bright background and 'move' even when the eye is stationary.



PHOTOPSIA

COMPLAINTS

- Flashes of light or sensation of flickering lights.

CAUSE

- Vitreous shrinkage or liquefaction, which causes a pull on the vitreoretinal attachments, irritating the retina and causing it to discharge electrical impulses.

- These impulses are interpreted by the brain as 'flashes'.

- Phenomenon is usually benign and age-related, but could be an indicator of a developing retinal tear or an early retinal detachment.

4. Photopsia



- Hallucinatory perceptions such as sparks, lights or colours arising in the absence of light stimuli and observed when the eyes are closed.

➤ Etiology:

- posterior vitreous detachment
- migraine with aura
- migraine aura without headache
- retinal break or detachment
- occipital lobe infarction
- sensory deprivation

