



DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF OCULAR TORSION

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PEDIATRIC OPHTHALMOLOGY AND ADULT STRABISMUS



Intermountain Foundation®
Primary Children's Hospital
The Child First and Always®

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

- I have no financial interests to report

DIPLOPIA AFTER MVA

- 61-year-old female complaining of “different vision in both eyes” since a motor vehicle accident eight months ago. As a result of the MVA, she sustained severe closed head trauma and was in a coma for two months.

DIPLOPIA AFTER MVA

- **Distance VA cc**
 - OD: 20/15, J1+
 - OS: 20/20, J1
- **Mrx**
 - OD: +0.50 +0.25 x098
 - OS: +0.25 sph
- **Pupils**
 - R/R, no APD
- **Slit Lamp Examination**
 - Trace nuclear sclerosis
- **IOP**
 - 12 mm Hg OU
- **Dilated Fundus Exam**
 - c/d 0.3 OU
 - Normal macula, disc, vessels, periphery OU



Chin down 5°

Tilt left 2°

SENSORIMOTOR EXAM


- Deviations**

- Dsc: RH(T) 1 $^{\Delta}$
- Nsc: X(T) 8 $^{\Delta}$, RH(T) 2 $^{\Delta}$


- Stereo**

- +Fly, 3000 arc seconds

X(T) 4 $^{\Delta}$ LH(T) 4 $^{\Delta}$	X(T) 4 $^{\Delta}$ RH(T) 2 $^{\Delta}$	X(T) 4 $^{\Delta}$ RH(T) 6 $^{\Delta}$
E(T) 2 $^{\Delta}$ LH(T) 4 $^{\Delta}$		E(T) 2 $^{\Delta}$ RH(T) 4 $^{\Delta}$
ET 14 $^{\Delta}$ LHT 5 $^{\Delta}$	ET 16 $^{\Delta}$ RHT 4 $^{\Delta}$	ET 12 $^{\Delta}$ RHT 6 $^{\Delta}$



E(T) 2 $^{\Delta}$
RH(T) 5 $^{\Delta}$



LH(T) 4 $^{\Delta}$

ASSESSMENT OF OCULAR TORSION

- **Deviations**

- Dsc: RH(T) 1^{Δ}
- Nsc: X(T) 8^{Δ} , RH(T) 2^{Δ}

$$\begin{array}{cc} \begin{array}{c} +1 \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ \times \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ -1.5 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} +1 \\ \diagdown \quad \diagup \\ \times \\ \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ -2 \end{array} \end{array}$$

- **Double Maddox Rod**

- 2° OD excyclotorsion
- 10° OS excyclotorsion

- **Fundus Torsion**

- 3+ OD excyclotorsion
- 2+ OS excyclotorsion

TORSIONAL STRABISMUS

- Abnormal rotation of the eye about the visual axis
- Malfunction of the cyclovertical muscles



TORSIONAL STRABISMUS

- Patients can usually compensate for up to 8° of cyclodeviation
- Excyclotorsion is more common than incyclotorsion
- Important part of ophthalmic examination in patients with vertical strabismus
 - Even in the absence of torsional complaints

TORSIONAL STRABISMUS

- Malfunction of cyclovertical muscles



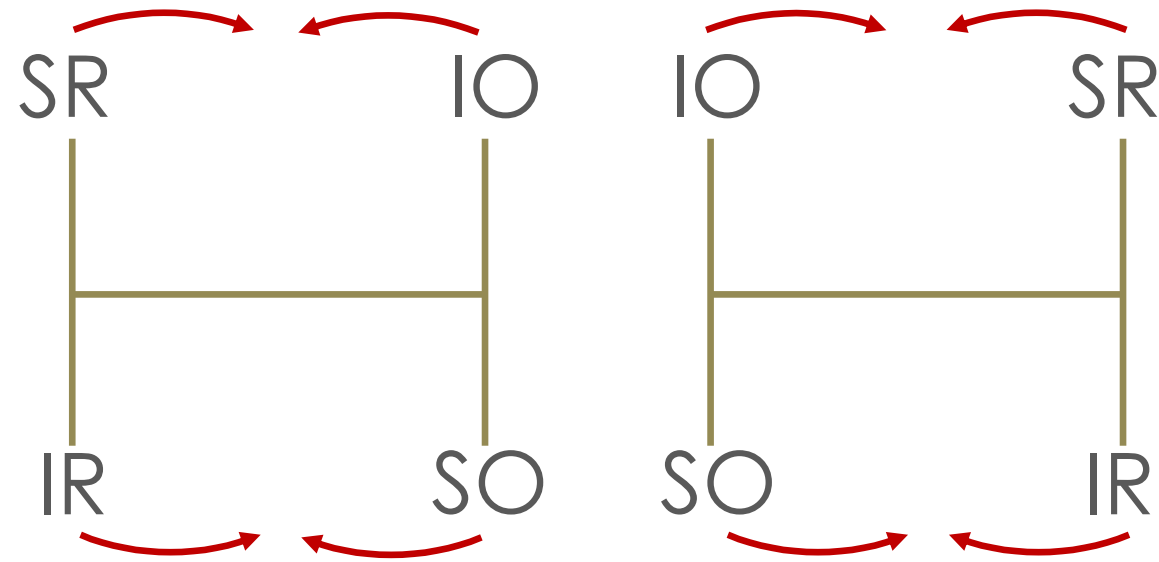
TORSIONAL STRABISMUS

- EXCYCLOROTATED ORBITS
 - SUPERIORLY DISPLACED MEDIAL RECTI



DR. DAVID HUNTER

TORSIONAL STRABISMUS



HEAD TILT TEST (BIELSCHOWSKI)

- Tilting head stimulates torsion
- Right head tilt makes right eye intort



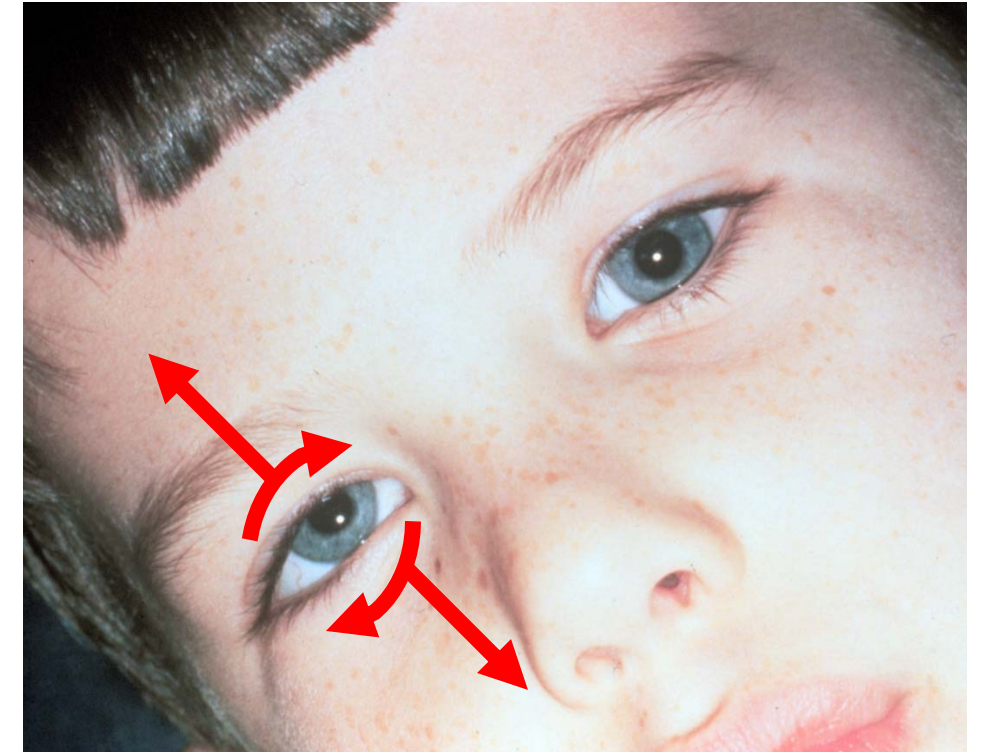
HEAD TILT TEST (BIELSCHOWSKI)

- Tilting head stimulates torsion
- Two muscles have same torsional action
- SO and SR are both activated to intort the right eye



HEAD TILT TEST (BIELSCHOWSKI)

- Tilting head stimulates torsion
- Two muscles have same torsional action
- Torsional muscles also have vertical action
 - SO pulls eye down, SR pulls eye up



HEAD TILT TEST (BIELSCHOWSKI)

- Tilting head stimulates torsion
- Two muscles have same torsional action
- Torsional muscles also have vertical action
- Vertical actions imbalanced with head tilt
- SR overwhelms weak SO



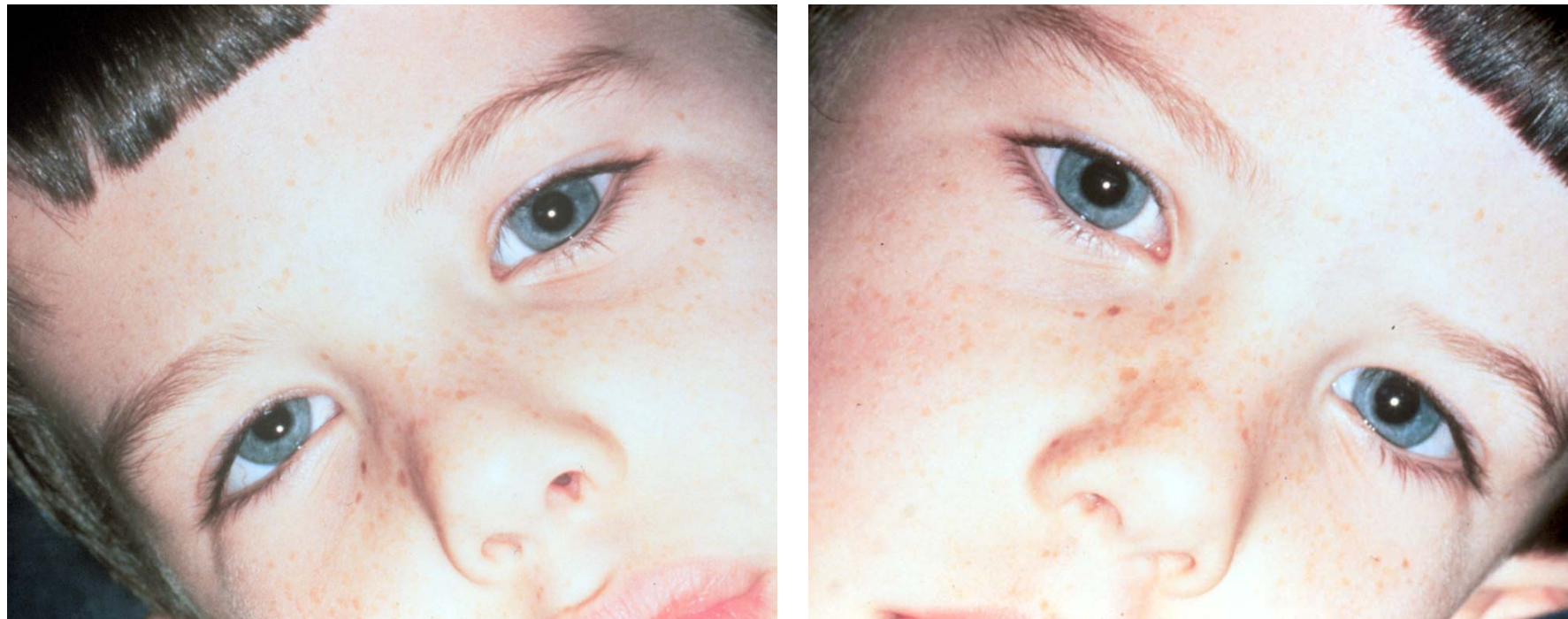
HEAD TILT TEST (BIELSCHOWSKI)

- Same torters relax if head tilted the other way
 - Head tilt left requires right eye to extort



HEAD TILT TEST (BIELSCHOWSKI)

- Deviation enhanced by head tilt
- Right hypertropia (RSOP) is worse with right head tilt

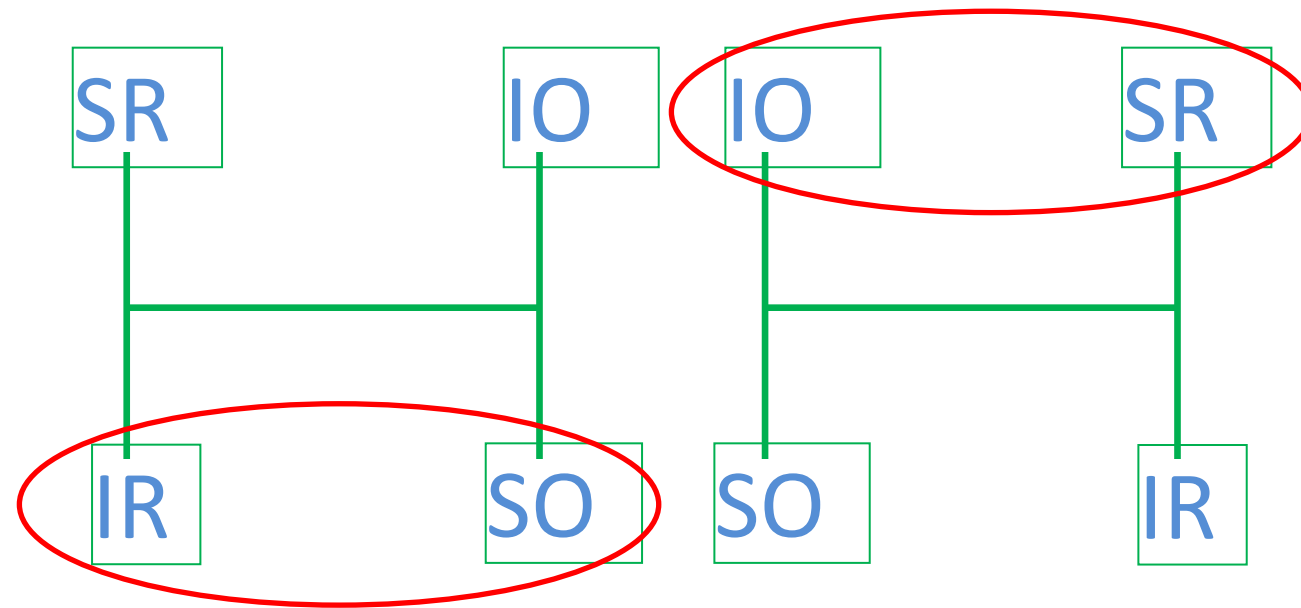


HEAD TILT TEST (BIELSCHOWSKI)

- Identifies an isolated, acute vertical muscle weakness
- Does not identify:
 - Complex deviations
 - Old deviations (tend to become comitant)
 - Vertical muscle contracture/overaction

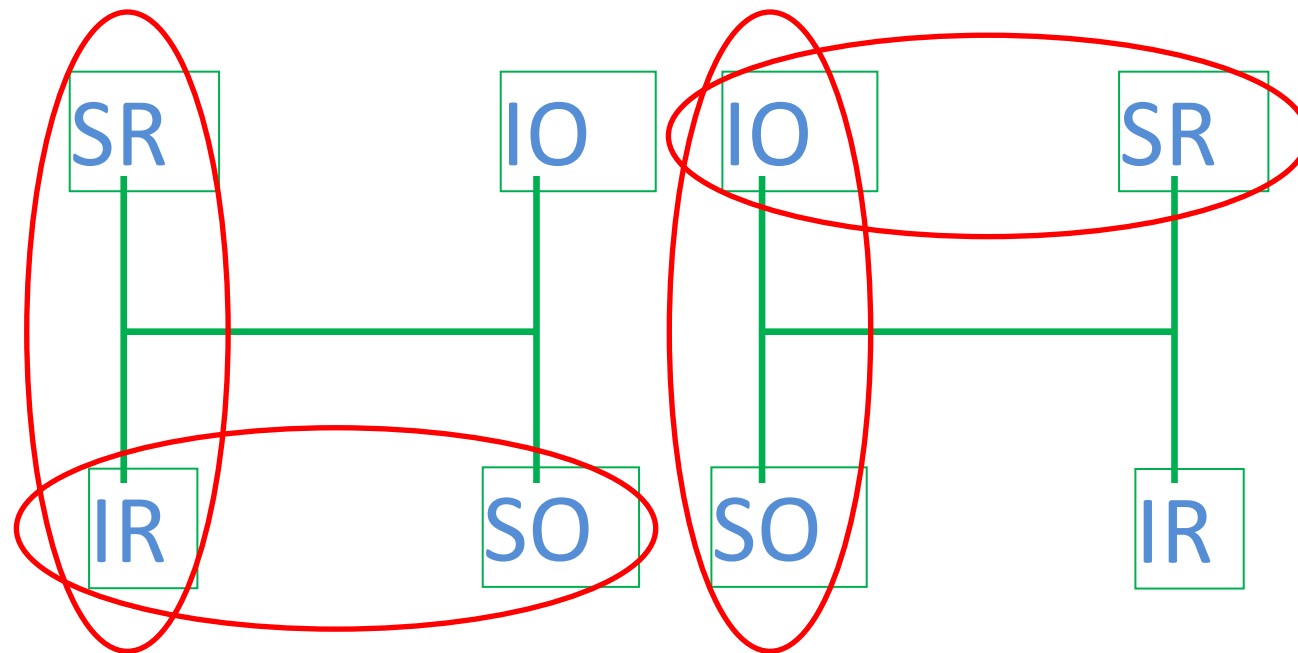
THREE STEP TEST – STEP 1

- If right hypertropia, circle muscles that pull right eye down or left eye up



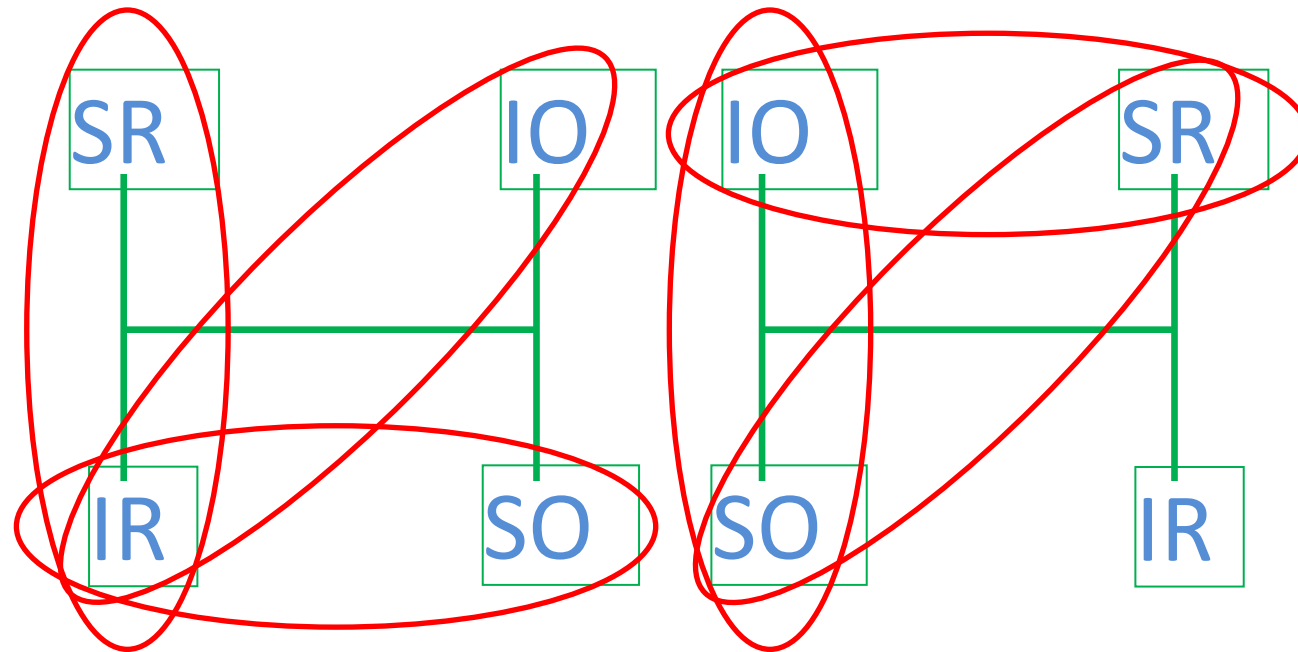
THREE STEP TEST – STEP 2

- If worse in gaze right, circle muscles on the patient's right



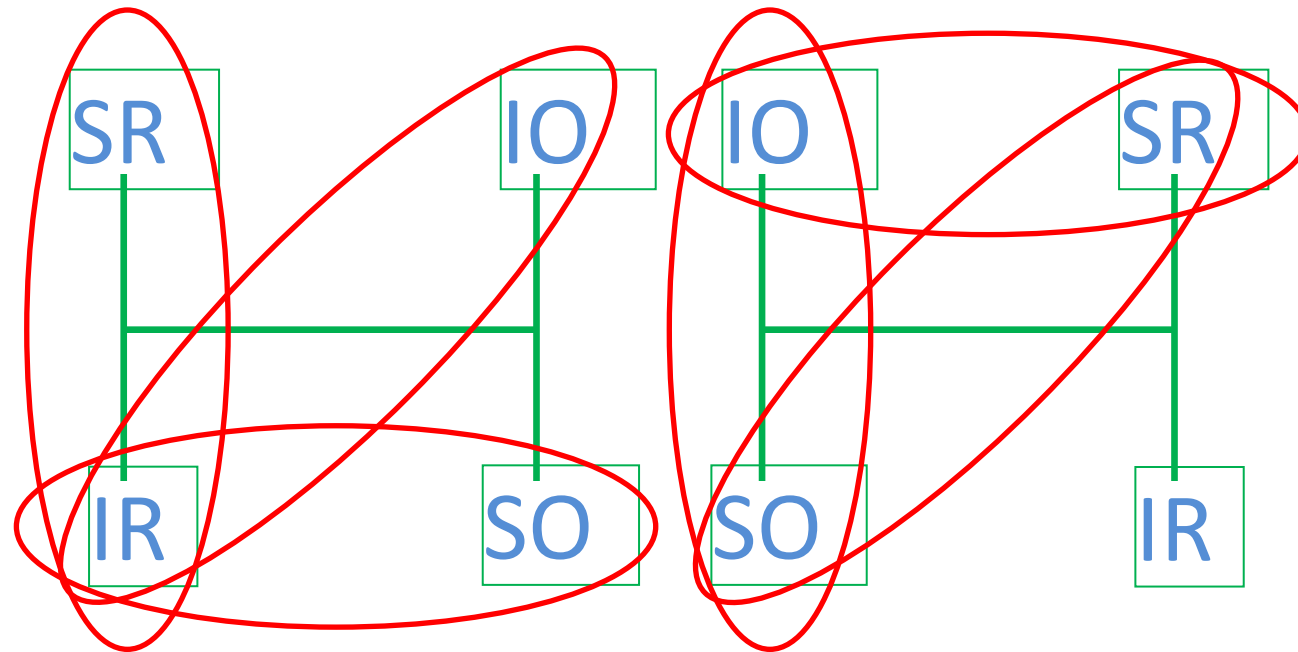
THREE STEP TEST – STEP 3

- If worse when head is tilted to the left, tilt your circles to the patient's left



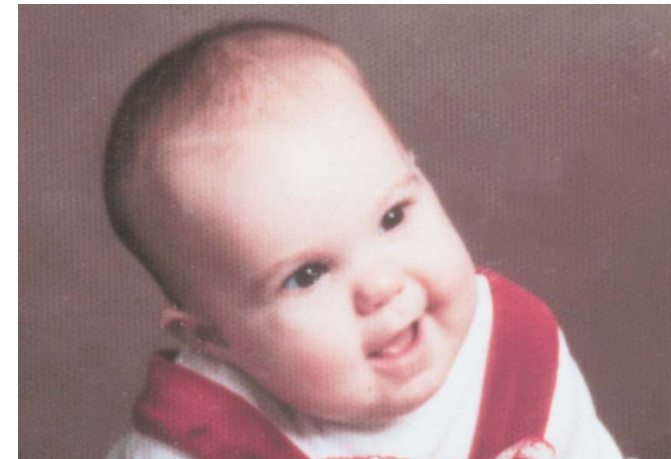
THREE STEP TEST – STEP 3

- Only one muscle is circled three times, this must be an isolated paresis of the right inferior rectus



SUPERIOR OBLIQUE PALSY

- Most common cyclovertical muscle palsy
- Can be congenital or acquired
- Can be unilateral or bilateral
 - Bilateral easily missed
- Often associated with an abnormal head posture



SUPERIOR OBLIQUE PALSY

- Ipsilateral hypertropia
- Improves with contralateral head tilt
- Ipsilateral fundus extorsion
- Often associated with facial asymmetry
- Ipsilateral orbit is larger

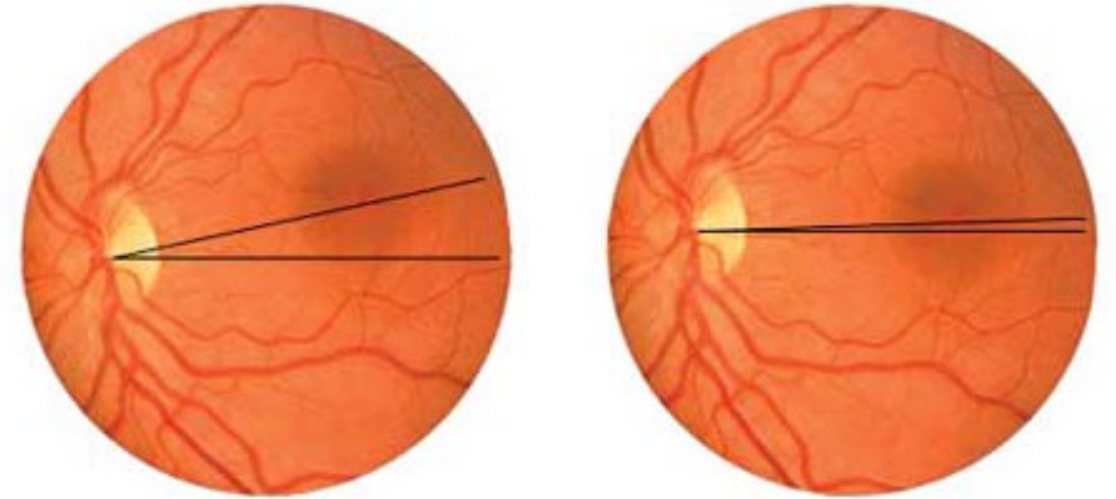


SKIEW DEVIATION

- Comitant vertical deviation
- Injury to posterior fossa structures
 - Loss of supranuclear input from the utricle and saccule of the inner ear
 - Causes ocular tilt reaction where eyes rotate toward lower ear on head tilt
- No change with head tilt

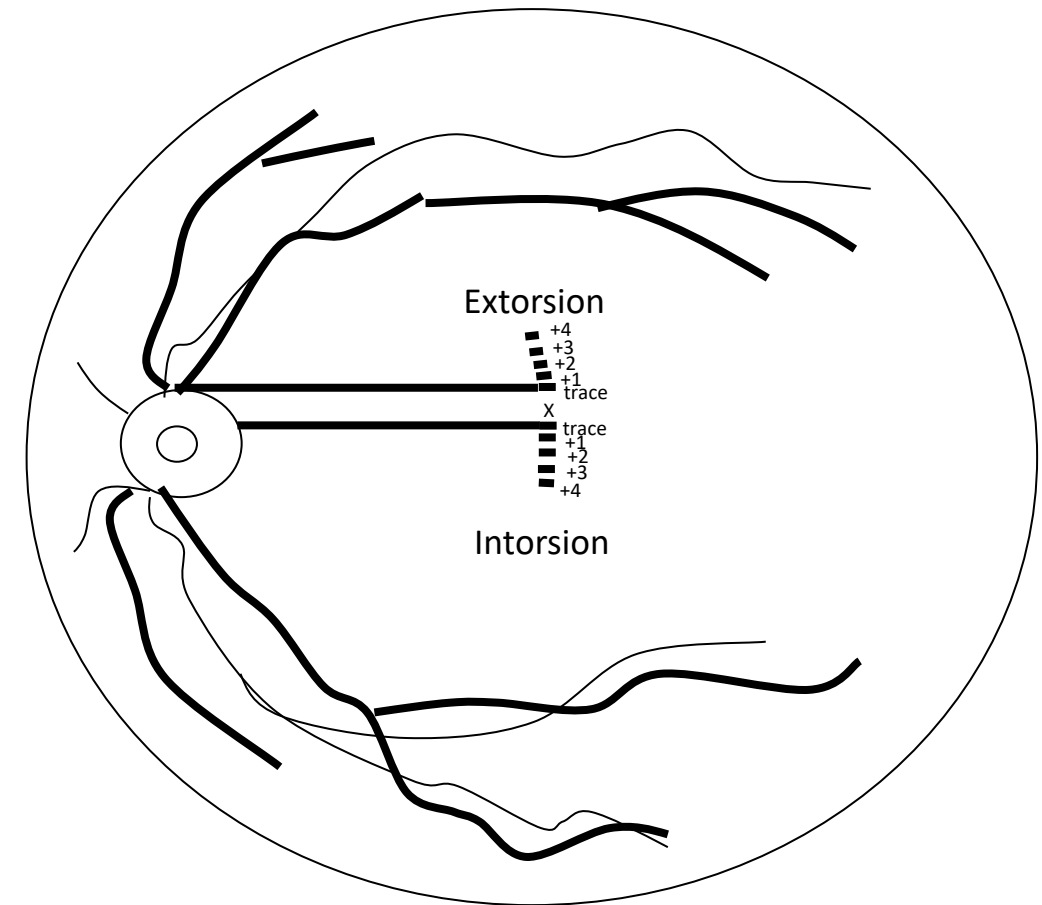
SKIEW DEVIATION

- Complementary torsion
 - Higher eye is intorted
 - Lower eye is extorted
- Diminishes in the supine position
 - Torsion decreased by 83%
 - Vertical deviation decreased by 74%



ASSESSMENT OF ANATOMICAL TORSION

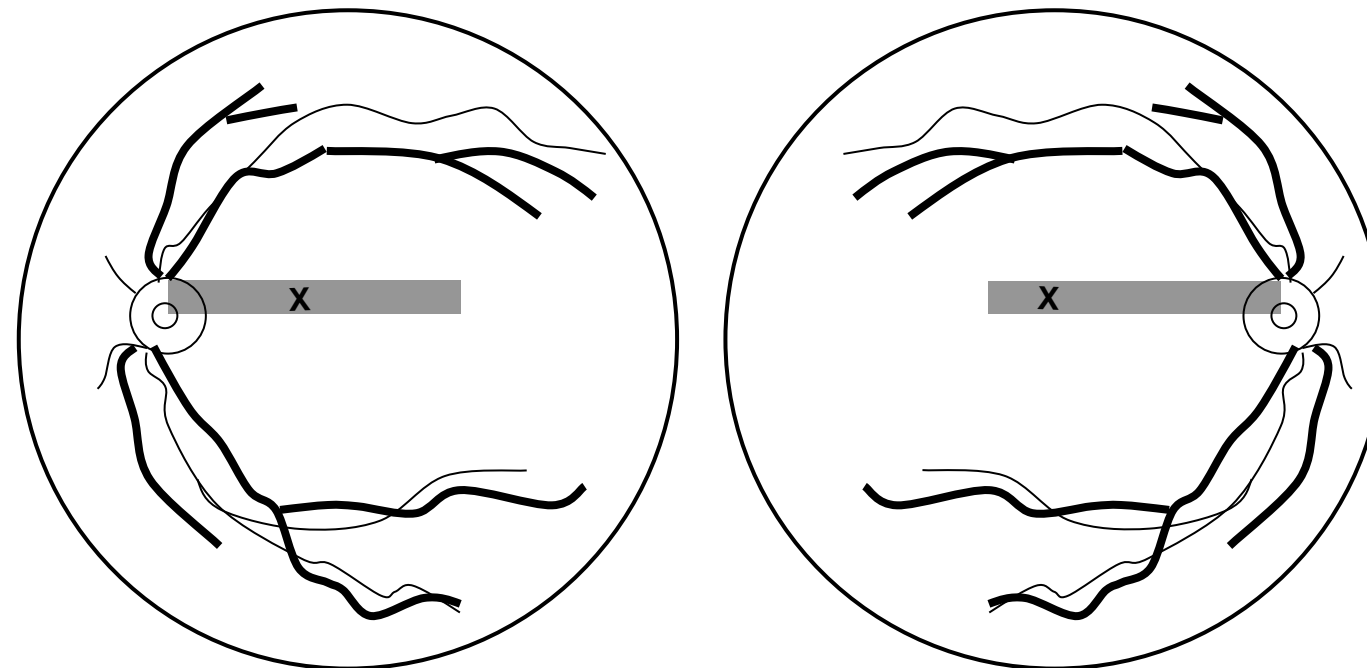
- Indirect ophthalmoscopy
- Fundus photography



ANATOMIC TORSION

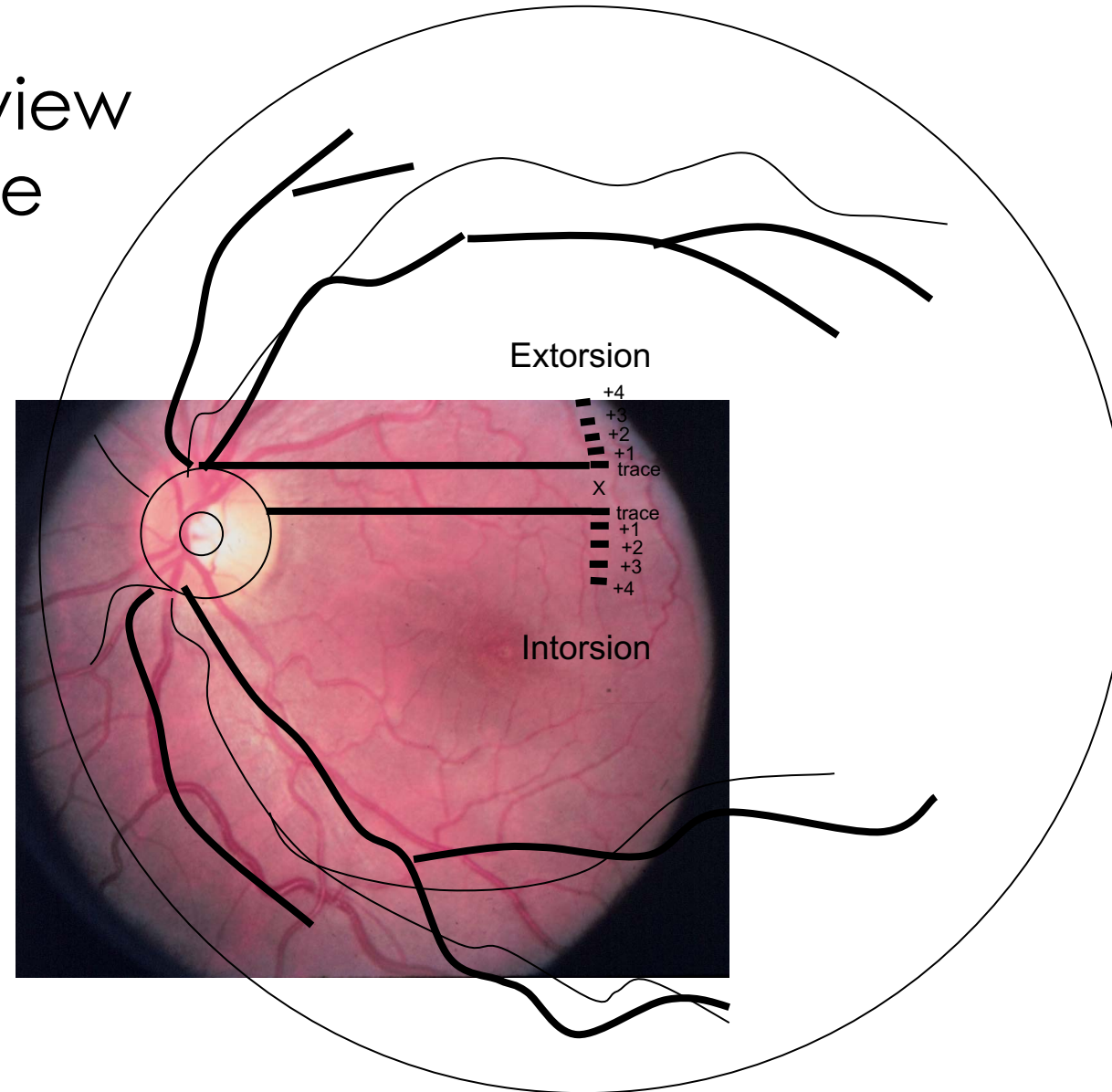
- Fovea normally found in lower 1/3 of optic nerve
 - Can vary within 12°
- Normal interocular difference < 1/4 disc diameter

Indirect
view



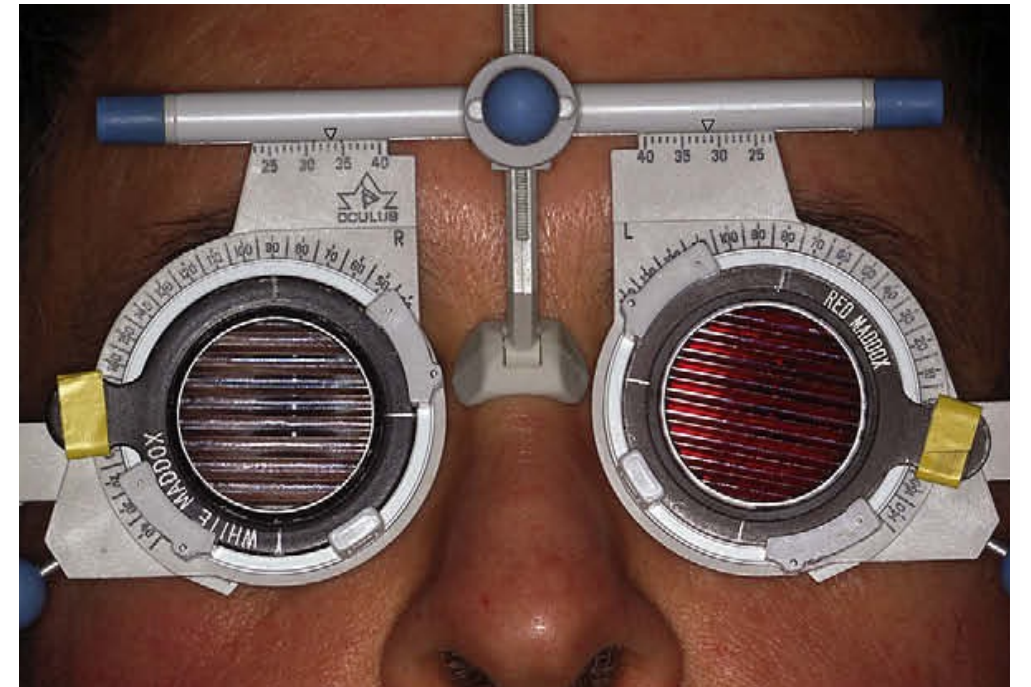
ANATOMIC TORSION

Indirect view
RIGHT eye



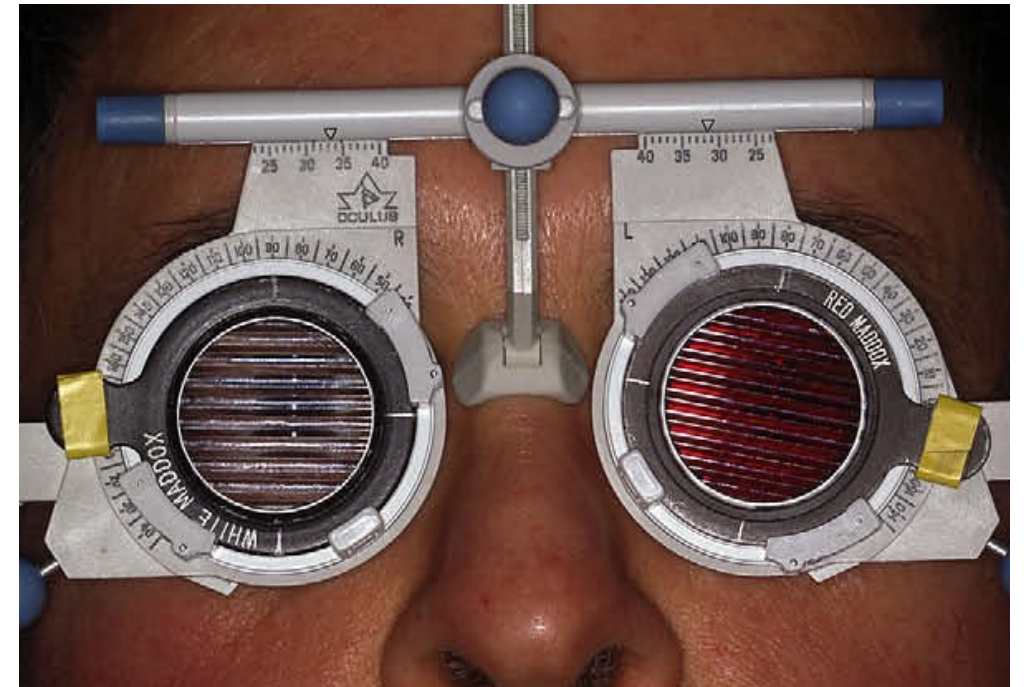
SUBJECTIVE TORSION

- Double Maddox Rod
- Patient rotates lenses to align them with the horizontal meridian
- Lancaster Red-Green Testing
- More accurate in side gazes
- Diagram of horizontal, vertical, and torsional deviations in nine diagnostic positions of gaze



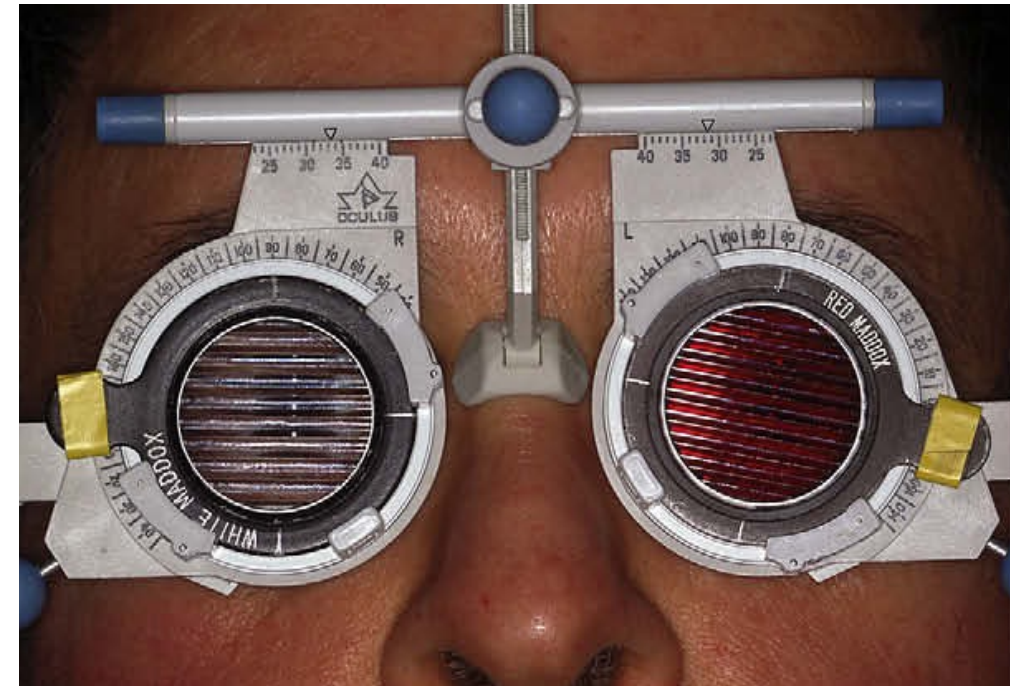
TIPS FOR USING DMR

- Obliquely orient lenses by 5-10° at the beginning of the test
- May need to use BD prism over one eye
- Completely darken room to eliminate fusional cues
- What you see is what it is



DISADVANTAGES OF DMR

- Only useful in primary position
- Head position critical
- Torsion may localize to the wrong eye



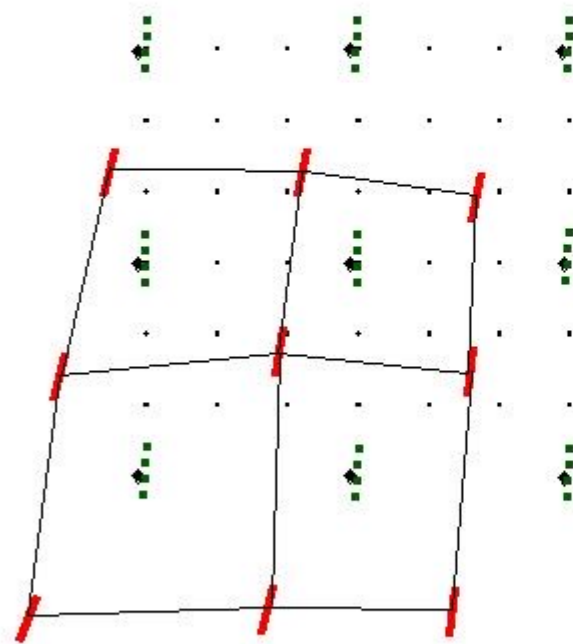
LANCASTER RED-GREEN TEST

- Diagram of horizontal, vertical, and torsional deviations in nine diagnostic positions of gaze
- Use flashlights to project streaks on calibrated screen
- Must have normal retinal correspondence



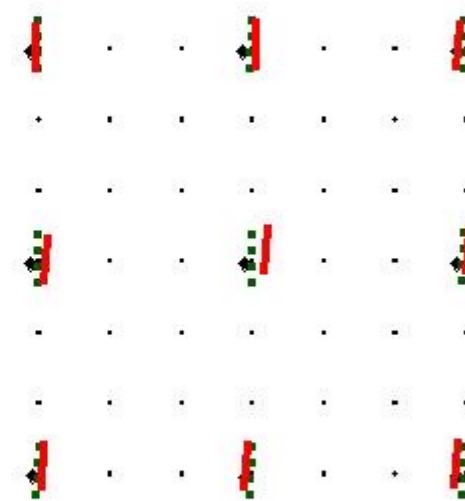
LANCASTER RED-GREEN TEST

Right eye fixing



- Right hypotropia
- Mild to moderate extorsion
- V-pattern esotropia

Left eye fixing



- Diagnosis: Right inferior rectus contracture

BACK TO OUR PATIENT

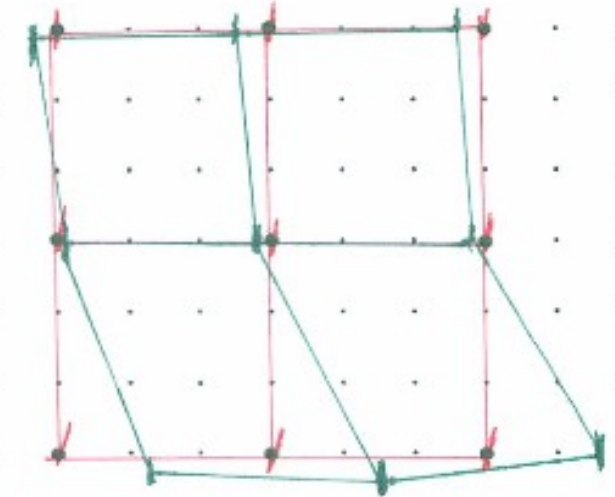
- Deviations
 - Dsc: RH(T) 1^{Δ}
 - Nsc: X(T) 8^{Δ} , RH(T) 2^{Δ}
- Double Maddox Rod
 - 2° OD excyclotorsion
 - 10° OS excyclotorsion
- Fundus Torsion
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 - 2+ OS excyclotorsion

LANCASTER RED-GREEN TESTING
Department of Ophthalmology Page 1 of 1

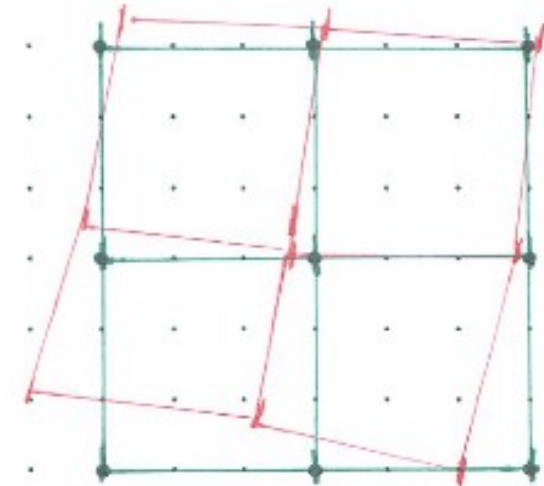
DOB

GENDER

Right eye
fixation



Left eye
fixation



BILATERAL SUPERIOR OBLIQUE PALSY

- Easily misdiagnosed
- May not have a shift in primary position
- Right hyper in left gaze (or right head tilt)
- Left hyper in right gaze (or left head tilt)
- $>10^\circ$ excyclotorsion
 - Most people can tolerate 7°
- Most noticeable in down gaze
- V pattern
- Esotropia in down gaze

TREATMENT OF SO PALSY

- **Observation**
- Prism
- Inferior oblique weakening
- Inferior rectus recession
- Superior oblique tuck
- Harada-Ito procedure



TREATMENT OF SO PALSY

- **Observation**
 - Especially in congenital cases



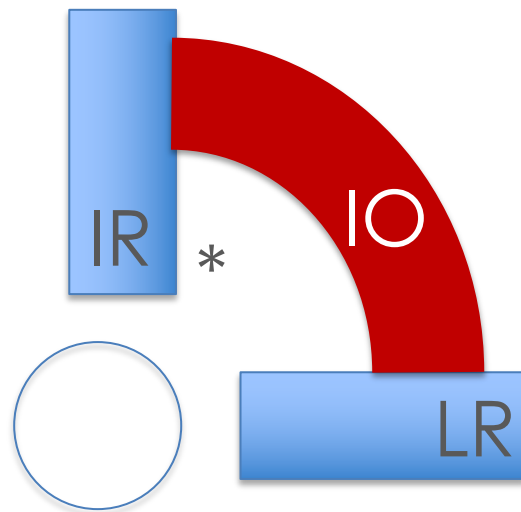
PRISM

- Can be helpful for vertical misalignment
- Most vertical deviations are incomitant
- Vertical fusional amplitudes are usually between 2-6 prism diopters

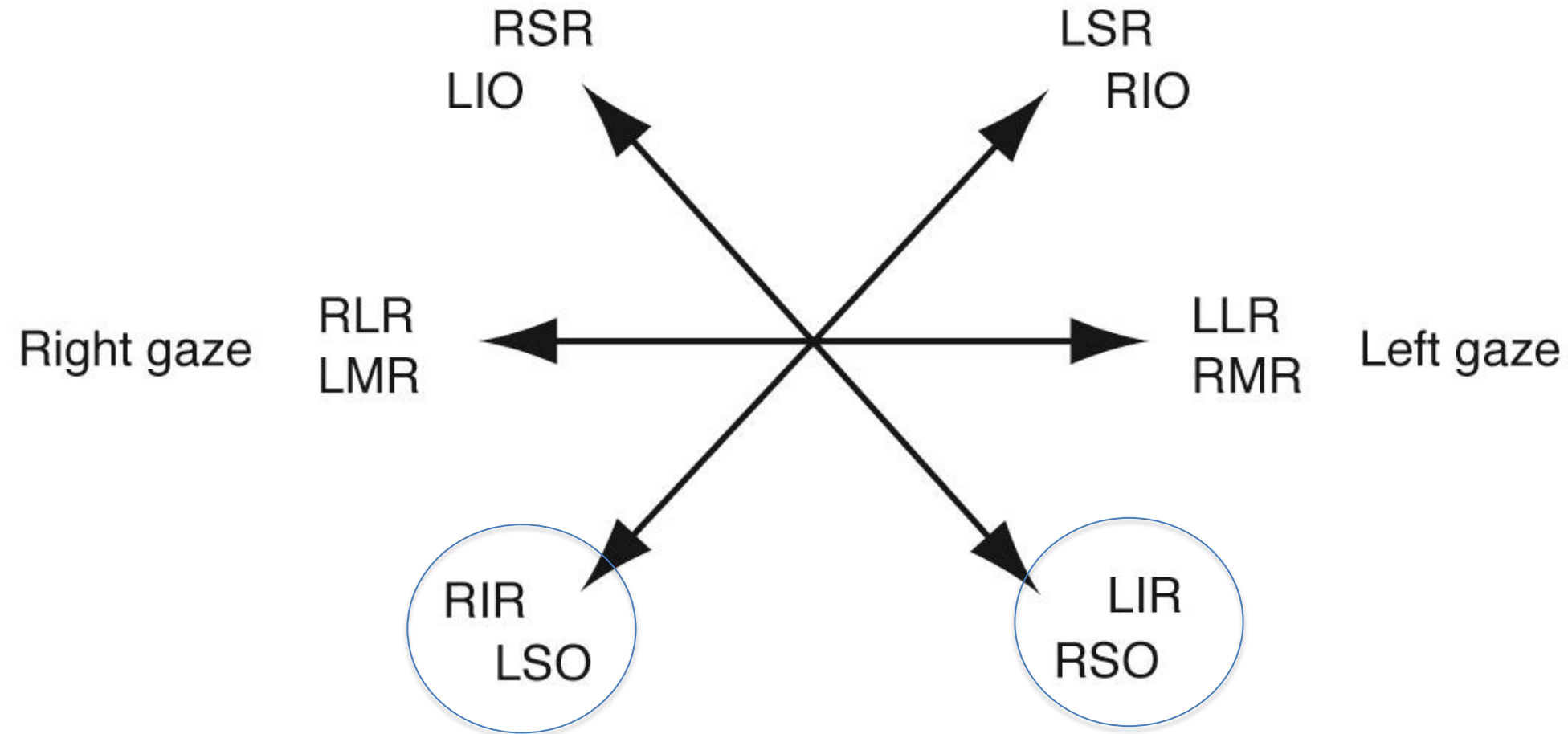


INFERIOR OBLIQUE WEAKENING

- Recession
- Myectomy

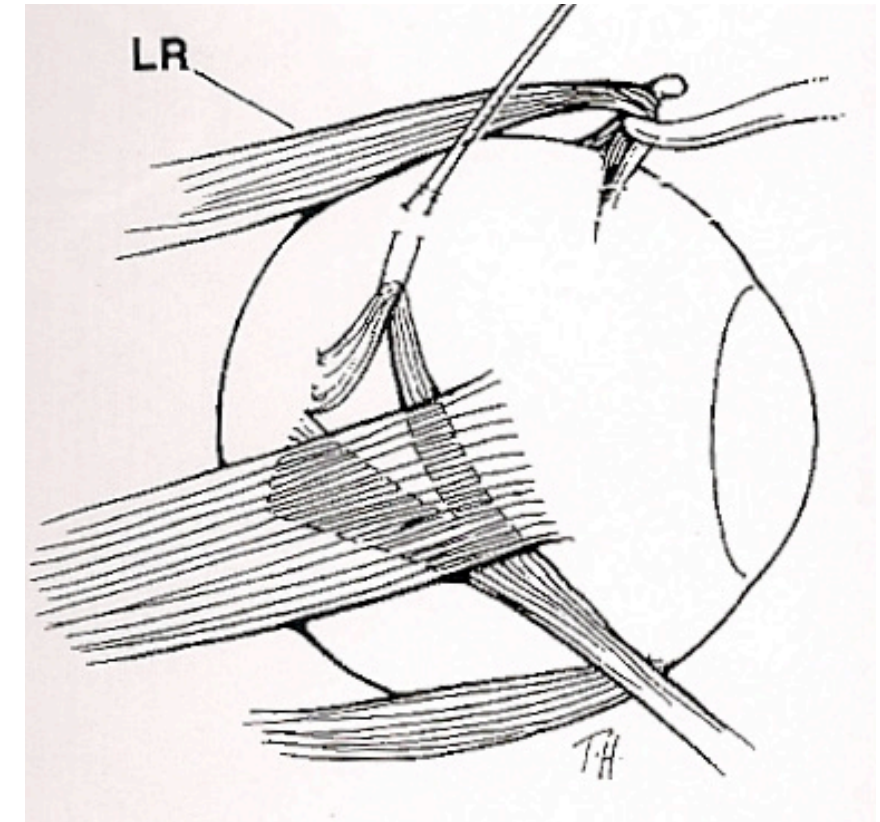


YOKE MUSCLE



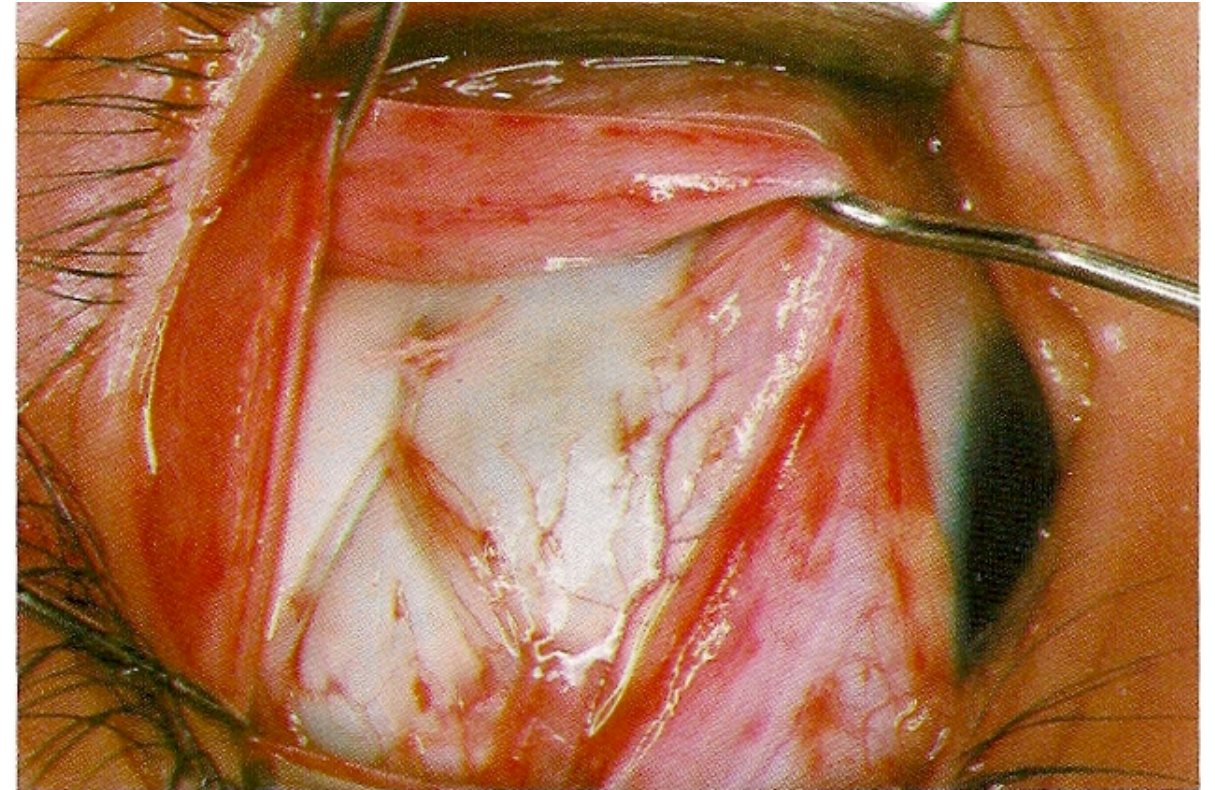
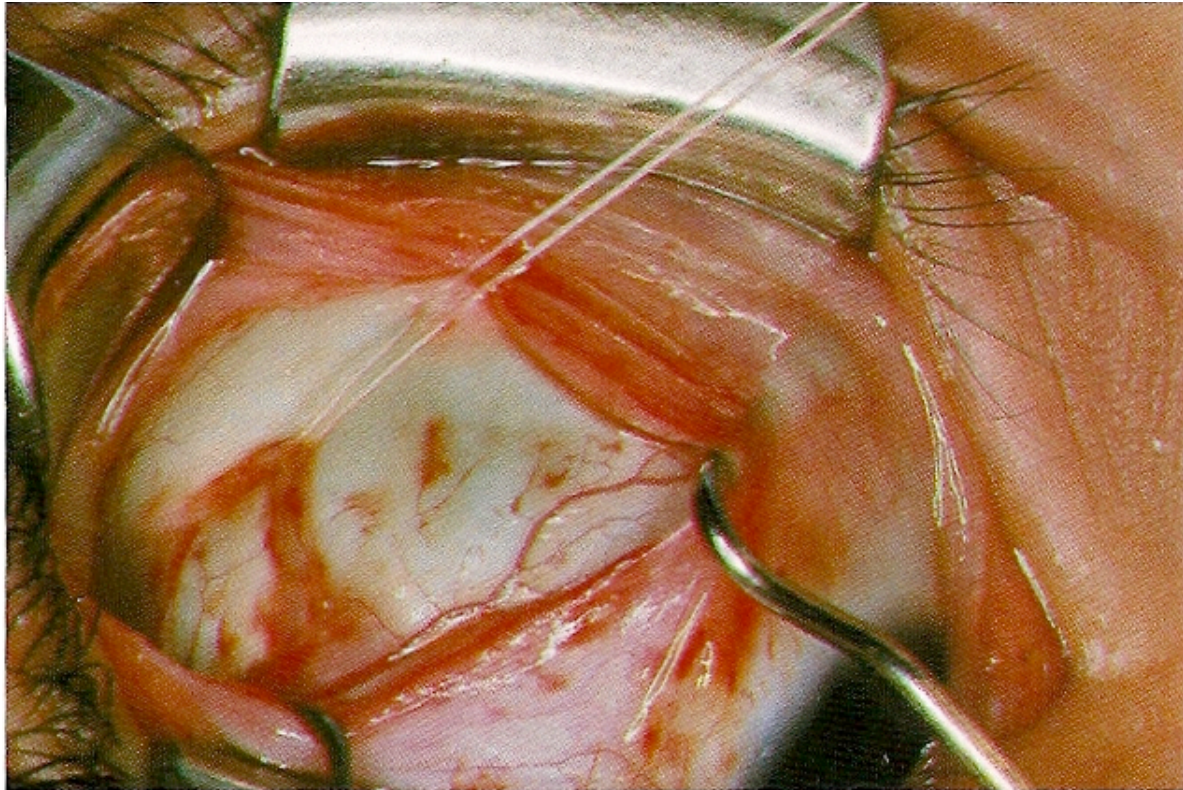
HARADA-ITO PROCEDURE

- Advancement of anterior fibers of superior oblique
- Anterior fibers are responsible for torsion
- Posterior fibers depress and abduct
- Intorts the eye without significantly changing vertical alignment



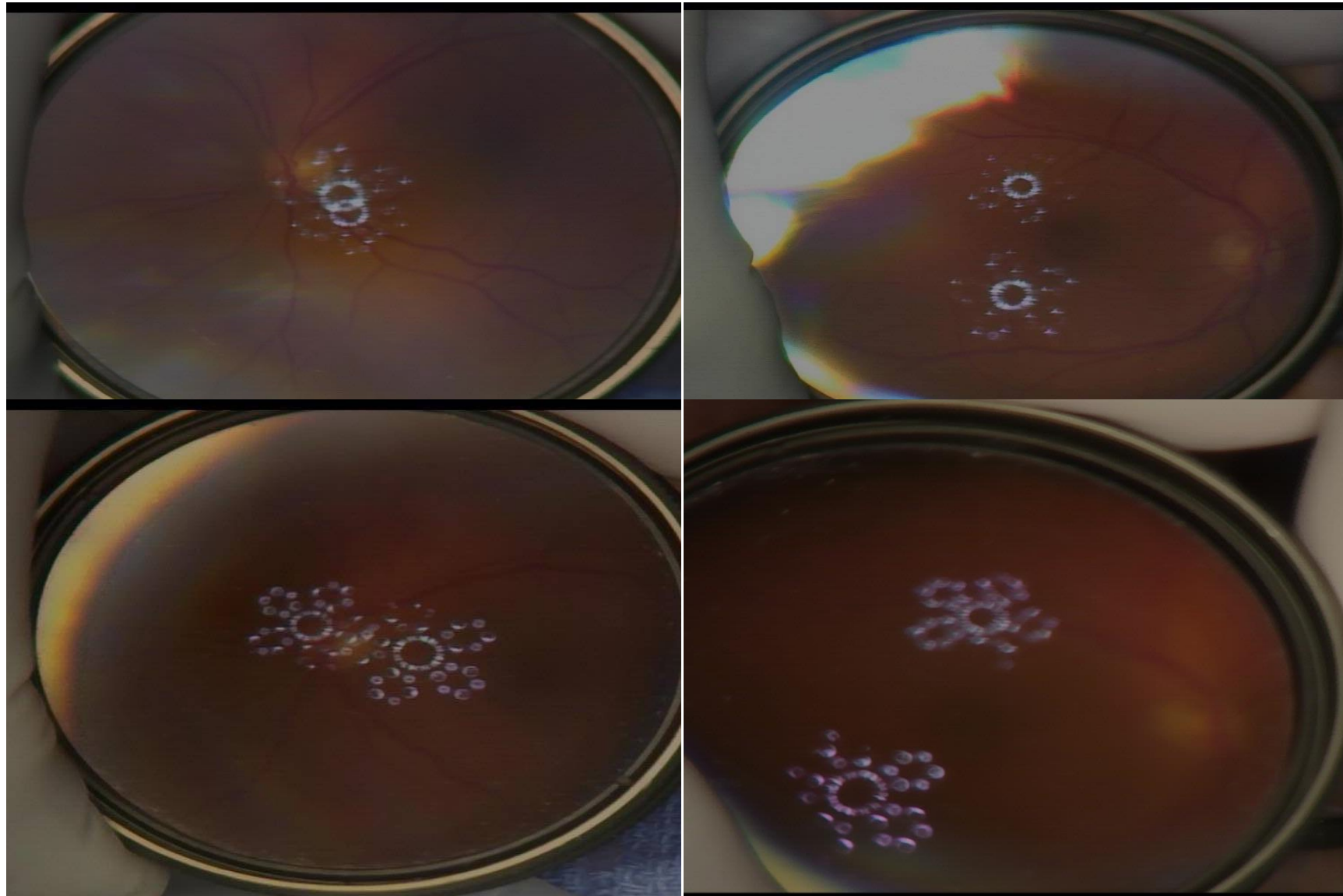
Jpn J Ophthalmol 1964;8:88-96

HARADA-ITO PROCEDURE



Wright, KW. Color Atlas of Strabismus Surgery. New York: Springer, 2007: 187.

HARADA-ITO PROCEDURE



Wright, KW. Color Atlas of Strabismus Surgery. New York: Springer, 2007: 187.

TWO MONTHS POST-OP

- Pleased with results of surgery
- Now able to walk comfortably without having to close one eye
- Sees double in extreme downgaze



TWO MONTHS POST-OP



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E(T) 4 Δ RH(T) 2 Δ	E(T) 2 Δ RH(T) 2 Δ	E(T) 2 Δ
E(T) 2 Δ LH(T) 4 Δ		E(T) 6 Δ RH(T) 3 Δ
E(T) 6-8 Δ	E(T) 8 Δ RH(T) 1 Δ	E(T) 6 Δ RH(T) 1 Δ



E(T) 2 Δ
RH(T) 3 Δ

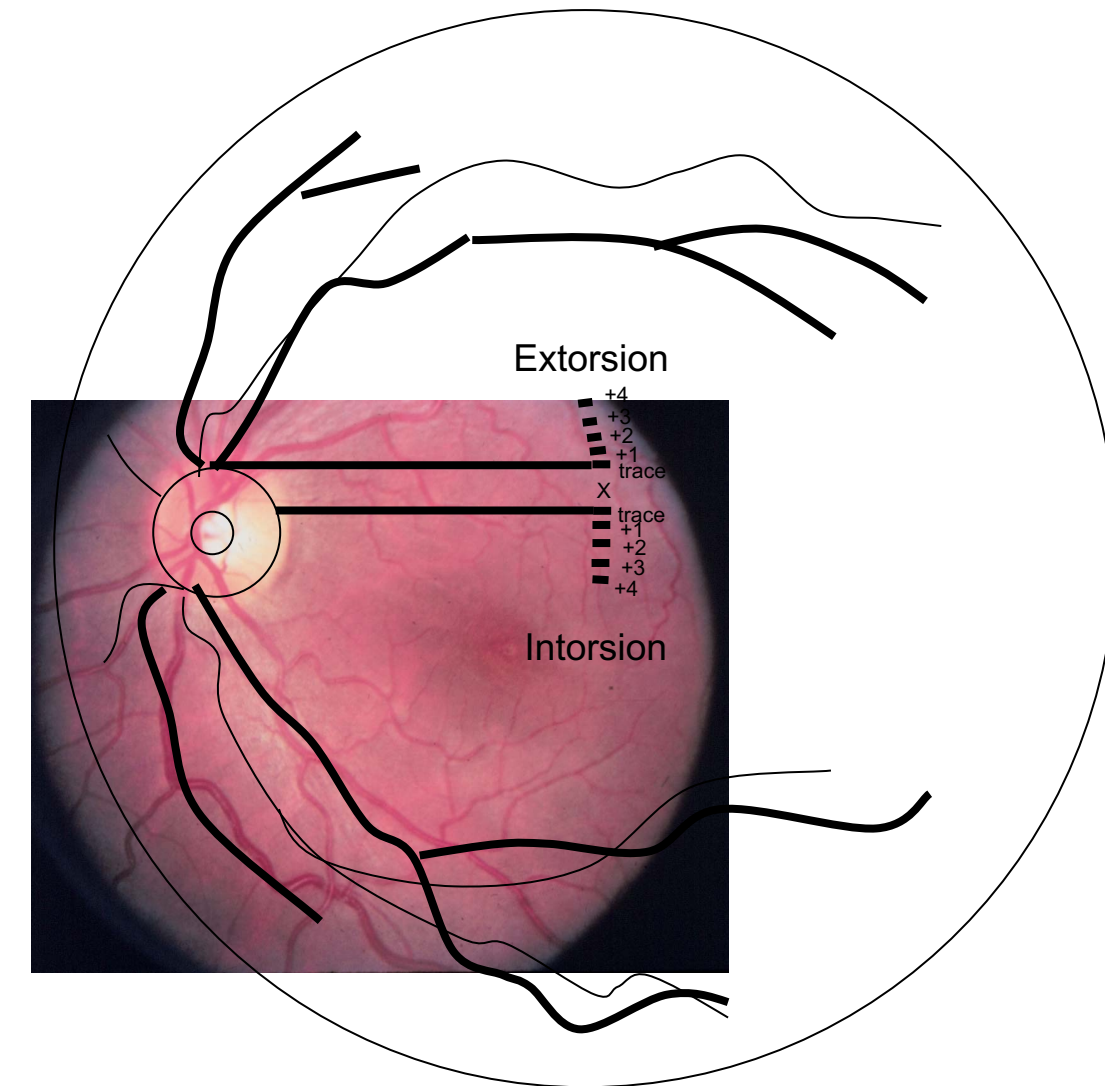


E(T) 2 Δ
Rhypo(T) 1 Δ

- Deviations
 - Dsc: E2 Δ
 - Nsc: X1 Δ
- 100 arc seconds stereoacuity
- Double Maddox rod
 - 5° incyclotorsion

SUMMARY

- Torsion can provide important information in cases of vertical strabismus
 - Even in the absence of torsional complaints
- Assess anatomic torsion using indirect ophthalmoscopy
- Assess subjective torsion using Double Maddox Rods or Lancaster red-green testing



FOR ANY QUESTIONS OR REFERRALS

- Call or text me anytime
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- marielle.young@hsc.utah.edu

Thank you to Dr. David Hunter, Boston Children's Hospital

PHYSICIAN REFERRAL INFORMATION FOR Pediatric Ophthalmology and Adult Strabismus



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- Pediatric retina
- Pre-operative prism adaptation
- Retinopathy of prematurity
- Strabismus in children and adults



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