PURPOSE: To report a case of ocular ischemic syndrome as a chronic complication of rhino-cerebral mucormycosis.

METHODS: A case report.

RESULTS: A 60-year-old female had survived from rhino-cerebral mucormycosis in 1992. During follow up period, yearly fundoscopic examination revealed no ocular sequlae until 1998 that retinal hemorrhages appeared only in her left eye. Fluorescein angiography demonstrated marked delayed arterial filling. Carotid color Doppler imaging showed total occlusion of left internal carotid artery. Retrobulbar color Doppler imaging showed patent but relatively low flow velocity in the central retinal artery and reversed flow in the posterior ciliary artery of her left eye. Under conservative medical treatment, she maintained systemically stable. Her visual acuity was 20/100 in the left eye at latest follow-up examination.

CONCLUSION: Ocular ischemic syndrome should be considered as a complication of rhino-cerebral mucormycosis. Regular fundoscopic examination is necessary. Both fluorescein angiography and color Doppler imaging are indicated if retinal hemorrhages appear.

Received: December, 2, 2003 Revised: January, 7, 2004 Accepted: April, 21, 2004

Department of Ophthalmology, * Department of Neurology, Chang-Hua Christian Hospital
Correspondence and reprint requests to: Jiunn-Feng Hwang Department of Ophthalmology, Chang-Hua Christian Hospital. 135 Nan-Siao St. Chang-Hua, TAIWAN, R.O.C. 500, E-mail: hwangif@cch.org.tw