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&

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## **Malignant melanoma invading optic nerve detecting tiny extra-scleral extension and optic nerve invasion**

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**Objective:** To highlight the importance of conventional ultrasound in detecting very tiny lesions. In this case detecting any extra-scleral extension involves optic nerve.

**Methods:** A young patient with 20/15 visual acuity underwent conventional ultrasound to rule out presence of malignant melanoma. Upon thorough examination, classic findings of malignant melanoma were found. A dome shaped, low to medium reflective, very vascular on both A-scan and Color Doppler choroidal lesion with minimal sound attenuation. A very small extra-scleral extension and partial involvement of retro-bulbar optic nerve invasion was clearly demonstrated during the exam. This was confirmed by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) examination.

**Results:** Ophthalmic ultrasound is of a great value to detect and diagnose any intra ocular lesion. It was of a greater value in detecting tiny extra-scleral extension and partial invasion of optic nerve.

**Conclusion:** Conventional ultrasound is of a great value and it should be the first step that can be taken to rule out any extrascleral extension of any intra ocular lesion. It showed very high sensitivity in detecting very tiny invasion to the retro-bulbar optic nerve in this case.

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