Retinitis Centralis Serosa

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In October 1957, a 53-year-old woman came to our Hospital complaining that the sight of her left eye had deteriorated rather suddenly and that she now saw a yellow spot in front of it.

On examination, the visual acuity of the left eye was found to be 0.4. On Amsler’s charts a large dark area was indicated and the lines were not straight. Examination of the fundus showed that the normal macular structure was absent.

Fig. 1. Fluorescein photograph before light coagulation, 25.5 sec after injection.
The patient had been seen before with the same complaints and findings (streaky macula and slightly raised macular area). A diagnosis of recurrent retinitis centralis serosa was made. Fluorescein photographs of the fundus were made. The first photograph, made before the fluorescein injection, shows no abnormalities. In the fourth photograph, taken 13.9 sec after the injection, a leak can be seen at the edge of the macular area to the right and at the top. In later photographs, 16, 18 and 23 sec after the injection, the leak can be seen still more clearly and it increases in size. The patient was treated by Prof. Colenbrander with light coagulation. After this the sight in the eye improved rapidly. Some time later (September 1968) a new series of fluorescein photographs was made. In these photographs taken 17, 18, 21 and 45 sec after the injection the leak is no longer visible.