

## Clinical Image

## Phakochronology - The Forgotten Science

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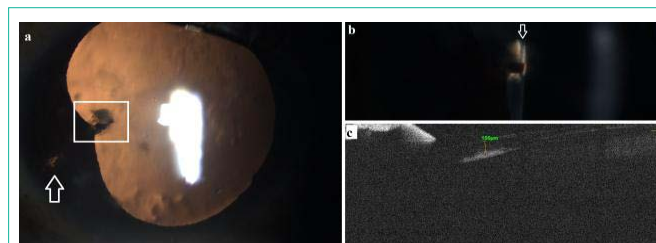
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## Clinical Image

A 30 year old male, had history of bomb blast injury to the face 24 months ago with multiple foreign bodies perforating the eye (operated for vitrectomy and foreign body explant). The iris entry wound and the cataract caused by one such foreign body is shown in (Figure 1a). The opacity in the lens substance (Figure 1b) is 156 microns behind the anterior lens capsule (Figure 1c) (meaning growth of these much lens fresh clear lens fibres over the time has pushed the lens opacity backwards which earlier would have been on the surface). Calculating by phakochronology [1], we would like to report the *in-vivo* lens growth in this patient to be 6.5 microns/month.



**Figure 1:** a) Slit lamp photograph showing iris entry wound (pharmacologically dilated) as white arrow, and the regional cataract marked by rectangle. b) The area of rectangle is magnified to show the area of cortical opacity is separated from the anterior capsule by a clear area. c) The same clear area is captured on anterior segment optical coherence tomography and the thickness is found to be 156 microns as shown.

## References

1. Huggert A. The thickness of the cortex of the crystalline lens in different ages. *Acta Ophthalmol.* 1946; 24: 43-62.