

Monocular blindness

Due to a lesion anterior to the [optic chiasm](#).

1. [Amaurosis fugax](#): often described as a “shade coming down” over one eye

a) [TIA](#): usually due to occlusion of the [retinal artery](#)

b) [giant cell arteritis](#) (GCA): usually due to ischemia of [optic nerve](#) or [optic tracts](#) (less commonly due to [retinal artery occlusion](#)) ¹⁾.

2. trauma: optic nerve injury

3. ruptured carotid cavernous aneurysm: resultant carotid-cavernous fistula increases intraocular pressure by impeding venous return

4. intraorbital pathology: tumors

5. injury within the globe: retinal detachment, ocular trauma

6. unilateral vitreous hemorrhage: e.g. with SAH (Terson’s syndrome)

¹⁾

Salvarani C, Cantini F, Boiardi L, Hunder GG. Polymyalgia rheumatica and giant-cell arteritis. N Engl J Med. 2002; 347:261-271

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