**Eye Condition Snippet**

**Condition Name: Coats’ Disease (Exudative Retinitis)**

**Description:** Coats’ Disease is a very rare congenital, nonhereditary eye disorder, causing full or partial blindness, characterized by abnormal development of blood vessels behind the retina. Blood leaks from the abnormal vessels into the back of the eye, leaving behind cholesterol deposits and damaging the retina. It usually affects only one eye.

**Effects on Vision:** Coats’ disease results in a gradual loss of vision. At advanced stages, retinal detachment is likely to occur. This will result in total blindness in the afflicted eye. An early warning sign of Coats’ disease is yellow-eye in flash photography. It will glow yellow in photographs because light is reflecting off the cholesterol deposits.

**Educational implications:** The associated retinal detachment can result in visual field loss, where parts of the visual field are missing. Preferential seating in the classroom should be considered. Since it is unilateral there can be loss of depth perception. Physical and spatial activities should be assessed for potential dangers. Deterioration usually begins in the upper part of the vision field so reading environments (near and far) should be assessed for access and efficiency.