A 12-year-old boy presented with headache and decreased vision in both eyes for 1 month. There was no anterior chamber or vitreous inflammation. Intraocular pressures of both eyes were normal. Visual acuity was 1/60 in either eye. The fundus showed bilateral disc oedema, extensive patches of choroidal depigmentation, and areas of hyperpigmentation surrounded by depigmentation (Elschnig’s spots) are seen at the temporal and superior fundus. Inferiorly, the retinal vessels were elevated with retinal folds, suggestive of a retinal detachment (black arrows). The greenish hue in the image is an artefact of Optos™ imaging, which gives pseudo-colour imaging unlike the conventional fundus cameras which provide natural reddish fundus image, due to choroidal vascularity and the colour of retinal pigment epithelium.

Bilateral exudative retinal detachment with choroidopathy can be an important initial presenting feature of malignant hypertension, even in the absence of classical features such as soft exudates (cotton wool spots) and intraretinal haemorrhages. All such cases should be investigated for causes of secondary hypertension.

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