Types of Retinal Detachment

Three mechanisms: telling them apart points to the cause and the treatment

Rhg Rhegmatogenous (the most frequent)

- a hole or tear lets fluid through
- myopia, trauma, cataract surgery

Trc Tractional

- fibrosis that "pulls" on the retina
- proliferative diabetic retinopathy

Exu Exudative

- fluid that "pushes"
- inflammation, malignant hypertension, tumors

Hole
Fluid under the retina: rhegmatogenous

Diabetic
With traction: tractional

Alarm
Photopsias + floaters + curtain: ophthalmic emergency

Alarm symptoms: floaters, flashes of light and a "curtain" over the visual field