A 64-year-old woman presents to the emergency department with severe pain around her right eye.

She has had the pain for 4 hours. She also has blurred vision in that eye and feels nauseated. Examination shows a red right eye with an oedematous cornea and a wide pupil that is unresponsive to light. Intra-ocular pressure is 60 mmHg in the right eye. The anterior chamber angle is closed in both eyes.

How would you diagnose this patient? What differentials should you consider? What is the most effective treatment?

Find the answer to this and other important clinical questions on BMJ Best Practice.

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BMJ Best Practice unique differentials tables guide you through making a diagnosis, and our treatment algorithms, with links to drug databases and Cochrane Clinical Answers, help you to determine the best course of care for your patients.

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