

ABSTRACT

Prevalence and causes of amblyopia in children in a hospital-setting Farah Akhtar DOMS, FCPS

Purpose of Study: To find out the prevalence and etiology of amblyopia in children

Study design: Case series

Methodology: Children up to 12 years of age coming to department of ophthalmology, Children hospital, Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences, Islamabad were screened for amblyopia. All strabismic, hypermetropic and anisometropic cases were enrolled in study before starting the amblyopia therapy. Occlusion therapy for management of amblyopia was conducted from July 1992-June 1993. The results of amblyopia therapy will be published in another study.

Results: Out of a total of 2,794 patients, 136 cases of amblyopia were identified giving a prevalence of 4.9 %. Causes of amblyopia were strabismus in 25%, combined strabismus and anisometropia in 14.0%, ametropia in 4.4%, form deprivation in 38.2% and anisometropia in 18.4 %.

Conclusion: The prevalence of amblyopia was found to be relatively higher in this age group, which underlines the importance of early screening regimen in children. Al-Shifa Journal of Ophthalmology 2005; 1(2): 83-87 © Al-Shifa Trust Eye Hospital, Rawalpindi, Pakistan.