ABSTRACT

Awareness of diabetic retinopathy among the known diabetic patients at a tertiary care eye hospital

Mahmood Ali\textsuperscript{1} FCPS MCPS, Wajid Ali Khan\textsuperscript{1} FRCS (Glasgow), Ayisha Kausar\textsuperscript{2} FCPS MCPS, Farah Akhtar\textsuperscript{1} FCPS DOMS

ABSTRACT

Objectives: To assess the awareness of diabetic retinopathy (DR) among the known diabetics at Al-Shifa Trust Eye Hospital (ASTEH) Rawalpindi.

Study Design: A cross sectional observational study.

Subjects and Methods: Study was conducted on 200 known diabetics from 1\textsuperscript{st} April 2007 to 30\textsuperscript{th} September 2007. Level of knowledge about DR was assessed on the basis of a face-to-face interview and graded according to the number of correct responses. All the information was recorded on proformas and data analysis was done using SPSS 13.0.

Results: There were 85 (42.5\%) male and 115 (57.5\%) female participants with a mean age of 56.0 (± 9.740) years while mean duration of diabetes was 8.468 (± 6.034) years. Knowledge of 72 (36\%) patients was found satisfactory. Gender (p=0.000), socioeconomic status (p=0.000), education (p=0.001) and source of information (p=0.000) were significantly associated with awareness. Ophthalmologists were the major source of information for the patients.

Conclusion: Awareness about DR is low in our diabetic patients. More emphasis should be given to health education of diabetics along with treatment. Al-Shifa Journal of Ophthalmology 2011; 7(1):25-31 © Al-Shifa Trust Eye Hospital, Rawalpindi, Pakistan.