

17th GLOBAL OPHTHALMOLOGY, GLAUCOMA AND OPTOMETRY CONFERENCE

November 02-04, 2017 Bangkok, Thailand

Prevalence of low vision causes and its management in tertiary eye care center

Helly Shah and Komal Bhut
Nagar School of Optometry, India

Statement of the Problem: Low vision affects >246 million people worldwide and over 54.5 million in India. The prevalence of low vision and its causes has been shown different for different cities, states, regions or places in many studies which cannot be comparable and even the management differs according to their low vision causes.

Purpose of Study: To find out the prevalence of low vision causes and its management in tertiary eye care center within Ahmedabad city to make the framework for low vision practitioner and managing in proper and lesser time while keeping in mind about low vision causes, category of visual loss and patient's needs and occupation.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: A cross-sectional, non-randomized study was performed by using convenience sampling method. Low vision subjects according to WHO working definition of low vision were included in the study. Patients who are totally blind or having no perception of light in both eyes, one-eyed patients and mentally retarded patients were excluded. Low vision causes, category of visual loss and low vision management for distance and near were assessed.

Findings: Chorio-retinal coloboma (22.16%), retinal detachment (13.51%) and macular scar (12.97%) were found to be most common causes to develop low vision in this study. Whereas, according to WHO criterion for categorization of visual loss, central field loss (63.78%) was found to be most common visual loss as compared to peripheral field loss (26.49%) and overall blur (9.73%). Considering management point of view, 52.43% low vision patients were not accepted any low vision devices for distance and maximum patients were accepted near reading spectacle magnifiers as a choice for their near tasks.

Conclusion & Significance: Low vision patients with varied causes will accept different aids related to their conditions, occupation, needs and affordability. So, as an Optometrist, it is always helpful to remember five factors in mind while accessing and managing low vision patients, i.e. social, financial, economical, psychological and visual factors. Finally, by keeping all these factors in mind, management of low vision patients within proper time frame makes better intervention for them.

Biography

Helly Shah has successfully completed her Master of Optometry and is an Academician, responsible for the development of academic research and clinical skills of the students. Her research interest is low vision, visual perception, behavioral optometry and cognitive neuroscience.

moptomhelly86@gmail.com

Notes: