

Applying a digitalized eye disease screening method to investigate the prevalence and risk factors for blindness and vision impairment in older adults of urban and rural population in Shanghai, China

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The digitalized eye disease screening method is utilized to screen the main eye diseases which could result in blindness and vision impairment for the older people. A cross-sectional study was carried out by Shanghai Municipal Center for Eye Disease treatment & Prevention to investigate the prevalence and risk factors for blindness and vision impairment in older adults of urban and rural population in Shanghai, China. From June 2008 to December 2009. A randomly cluster sampling was used to identify the targeted populations. Presenting visual acuity(PVA) and best -corrected visual acuity (BCVA) were measured separately in each eye. External eye, anterior segment and ocular fundus were examined by slit lamp-microscopes and non-mydratic digital camera. The main causes and the risk factors for blindness and vision impairment were analysed. Of 7879 enumerated subjects ≥ 60 years of age, 85.0% were examined. In this population, with BCVA and PVA, the prevalence of blindness and low vision were 0.97% and 4.79%, 1.22% and 12.96%, respectively. The leading causes of blindness were cataract, diabetic retinopathy, other fundus diseases, uncorrected refractive error, macular degeneration, and glaucoma. The low vision was associated with female gender with presenting VA, Rural, age, low education, and diabetes history have been associated with visual impairment. Thus, In rapidly developing and aging city (Shanghai) of China, applying a set of digitalized eye disease screening method to screen the targeted population's eye diseases, focus on correcting refractive error, performing cataract surgery, screening and intervening fundus diseases can increase the efficiency to prevent vision impairment in Shanghai, China.

Biography

Tong Xiaowei has completed her Master Degree at the age of 35 years from Fudan University of Shanghai Medical College. She is the deputy Director of Shanghai Eye Diseases Prevention and Treatment Center. She has published more than 15 papers in reputed journals. And she has made several researches on epidemiology of vision impairment and the screening methods for blinding diseases in the senior population of Shanghai, China. She is serving as a team leader of ophthalmological group in Shanghai Medical Association Jingan branch, an editor of the Chinese Journal of ocular trauma and occupational eye disease.

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