

Primary Chronic Angle Closure Glaucoma in Pakistan

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Purpose: To determine the proportion of primary chronic angle-closure glaucoma (P.C.A.C.G.) among patients presenting with features of a chronic primary glaucoma. **Setting:** A District Headquarter Hospital in the suburbs of Karachi. **Patients and Methods:** Data of the patients presenting with features of chronic glaucoma, having no evidence of secondary glaucoma or a history or evidence of a previous acute or sub-acute attack, who attended the Hospital during January 1992 to December 1993, were analyzed retrospectively. **Results:** 103 patients fulfilled the criteria set for the diagnosis of primary chronic glaucoma. 57 (55.3%) patients were of P.C.A.C.G., while 46 (44.7%) were of primary open angle glaucoma (P.O.A.G.). The mean intraocular pressure was 24.6 mm Hg in P.O.A.G. group and 30.8 mm Hg in P.C.A.C.G. group. 22 (38.5%) out of the 57 patients of P.C.A.C.G. were previously diagnosed as glaucomatous, but only two (3.5%) had correct specific diagnosis. 18 (31.5%) patients of P.C.A.C.G. had unilateral involvement. Two patients in the P.C.A.C.G. group had uniformly dilated pupil in one eye, the iris and pupil being otherwise normal. One of these eyes had circumferential corneal edema limited to the periphery. **Conclusion:** P.C.A.C.G. is common in Pakistani population, but it is often misdiagnosed as P.O.A.G.