

Profile of Ocular emergencies requiring admission

Pak J Ophthalmol Jul 2002;18(3):72-6.

Police and Services Hospital and Khyber Institute of Ophthalmic Medical Sciences, Hayatabad Medical College, Peshawar

Objective: Main objective of this study was to provide statistical data about ocular emergencies to health professionals and institutions so as to help in planning the provision of eye health care and management of ocular emergencies. **Design:** it was a retrospective study of 658 cases that were admitted as ocular emergencies. **Results:** Out of a total of 3426 admissions to the eye department, 658 (19.2%) cases were admitted as ocular emergencies in year 2000. 426 (64.7%) of these cases were male and 232 (35.3%) were female. 327 (49.7%) of these patients that is nearly half of the total number had trauma. Most of the cases (84.4%) in this group were male and below 40 year of age. Penetrating globe injuries were 34.8% of the total ocular emergencies requiring hospital admission. In non-traumatic cases, majority (67.67%) were 40 years or above. Males were 57.4% while females were 42.59%. in this group corneal ulcers were on the top of the list and constituted 24.31% of the total ocular emergencies. Patients with ocular emergencies stayed in hospital for much longer period compared to routinely admitted cases. Ocular emergencies formed 25% of our theatre list. **Conclusions:** Ocular emergencies constituted 1/5th of hospital admission. Traumatic and nontraumatic emergencies were both found with almost equal proportion. Trauma was more frequent in males below 40 years. Patients with ocular emergencies stayed in hospital for longer period than routine cases. Every 4th case on our operation list was admitted as an emergency.