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Prevalence of Mitral Valve Prolapse in Keratoconus Patients

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We studied 54 patients with keratoconus at the Department of Ophthalmology, Postgraduate Medical Institute,, Lady Reading Hospital, Peshawar, Pakistan, from October 1990 to January 1992. There were 47 males (87%) and 7 females (13%). Their ages ranged from 7 to 60 years (mean; 20.6). Apart from other investigations., we performed echocardiography to see the presence of mitral valve prolapse. The study revealed mitral valve prolapse in 16 (29.6%) patients, of which 13 were males and 3 were females. Both keratoconus and mitral value prolapse are known to occur in connective tissue disorders. The association between connective tissue diseases and mitral value prolapse is well known, but the association between keratoconus and mitral value prolapse has been more recently recognized and reported first in 1982 by Beardsley and Foulks. Our study is probably the second such report which confirms this association.