The presentation of misaligned eyes in children with previous squint surgery at Tripoli eye hospital

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Background: Strabismus, abnormal ocular alignment, is one of the most common ocular problems in children, affecting 5% of the preschool population. Strabismus can be treated with conservative therapy such as glasses, prisms, patching and/or orthoptic exercises, with a majority of the cases eventually requiring correction with eye muscle surgery.

Objective and Method: The purpose of this paper is to determine the prevalence of squinted eyes with previous squint surgery inpatients attend the squint outpatient clinic which we used a cross-sectional study and was analyzed by SPSS15.

Results: A one hundred strabismus patients was between 5-10 years of age in 52 patients and between 0-5 years in 35 patients. A 52% are males and 48% are females. Out of these patients 42 patients had a family history affected with squint. The geographical distribution of our patients is that 38% of them live outside Tripoli “the main squint consultation center” which may affect on their management and the time intervening between the onset of squint and the first ophthalmic consultation. A 32 of patient (aged between 5-10 years) 23-48% of the squinted patients had their first occlusion therapy regardless to the onset of strabismus, compare it with 23 of squinted patients (aged between 1-5 years) had no occlusion therapy, Furthermore, a 61% patients were treated by prescription of glasses or have previous history of glasses wear; A 33 out of 39 patients who didn't wear glasses had difficulties in learning or were late to their age. Although correction of refractive error is the most important first treatment for squint, however only 6% waited for second squint corrective surgery.

Conclusion: The prevalence of secondary surgery in squinted eye patients was low, but with regard to the results of treating amblyopia by occlusion, there were a high number in delaying treating amblyopia which may suggest the distance of the patients’ domicile from hospital or lack of education, so we recommend the importance of inform and educate other health care practitioners, including primary care physicians, as well as teachers, parents, and patients about the visual complications of strabismus and the availability of treatment and management, as well as that early treatment is essential for a good visual and learning outcome.

Biography

Amal M. Elbahi is an Ophthalmic trainee at Tripoli Eye Hospital since 2012, she teaches ophthalmology for fourth year medical students, which serves as faculty member at Tripoli Medical University. Before coming to Ophthalmic specialty, Amel was a resident fellow at infectious medicine and was involved in infectious control programme since graduating from medical school in 2011, also she has been an instructor for Optician students and been as supervisor for numerous graduated optician projects. Now, Amel is planning to establish a Libyan young ophthalmologist for research and education across the country.