



RESEARCH ARTICLE

INCIDENCE OF CATARACT AND IOL REPLACEMENTS AMONG GENERAL POPULATIONS

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ABSTRACT

Background: A cataract is a clouding of the normally clear lens of your eye. For people who have cataracts, seeing through cloudy lenses is a bit like looking through a frosty or fogged-up window. Intraocular lenses (IOLs) are medical devices that are implanted inside the eye to replace the eye's natural lens when it is removed during cataract surgery. IOLs also are used for a type of vision correction surgery called refractive lens exchange.

Aim: To estimate the incidence of cataract and IOL replacements among general population.
Objective: This survey is conducted to estimate the incidence of cataract and IOL Replacements among general populations.

Materials and Methods: This is a clinical observational study. The data was collected for 300 patients from the Ophthalmologist to whom the aim of the study was first explained. The incidence of cataract and IOL Replacements were analysed. The results were represented in the form of graph, table and a pie chart.

Results: The study was conducted for 300 patients. Out of which 42 subjects (14%) had cataract and 24 subjects (8%) were ready for IOL Replacements.

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INTRODUCTION

A cataract is a clouding of the lens in the eye which leads to a decrease in vision. Cataracts often develop slowly and can affect one or both eyes. Symptoms may include faded colors, blurry vision, halos around light, trouble with bright lights, and trouble seeing at night. This may result in trouble driving, reading, or recognizing faces (Allen, 2006). Poor vision caused by cataracts may also result in an increased risk of falling and depression (Gimbel, 2011). Cataracts are the cause of half of blindness and 33% of visual impairment worldwide (Swanson, 1970). Cataracts are most commonly due to aging but may also occur due to trauma or radiation exposure, be present from birth, or occur following eye surgery for other problems (Chandler, 1981). Cataracts can be classified according to appearance and location of the opacity within the lens; level of maturity or progression of the clouding; or cause of the cataract. Nuclear cataracts are the most common type in the aging lens and involve the central part of the lens. Cortical cataracts involve the outer layer of the lens and are often associated with childhood cataracts. Capsular cataracts result in clouding of the lens capsule, which is the bag that surrounds the lens of the eye. Posterior subcapsular cataracts result in clouding of the back part of the lens. Cataracts account for a major proportion of vision loss around the world.

In many foreign countries, cataract surgery is the most commonly performed eye procedure. The only real treatment for cataracts is surgical intervention. Currently there are no known effective medications or optical devices such as spectacles that provide long-term improvement in vision. An intraocular lens (or IOL) is a tiny, artificial lens for the eye. It replaces the eye's natural lens that is removed during cataract surgery. The lens bends (refracts) light rays that enter the eye, helping you to see. IOLs come in different focusing. Powers, just like prescription eyeglasses or contact lenses. Your ophthalmologist will measure the length of your eye and the curve of your cornea. These measurements are used to set your IOLs focusing power. Most IOLs are made of silicone or acrylic. The aim of this study is to estimate the incidence of cataract and IOL replacements among general population.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This is a clinical observational study. The data was collected for 300 patients from the Ophthalmologist to whom the aim of the study was first explained. The incidence of cataract and IOL Replacements were analysed. The results were represented in the form of graph, table and a pie chart.

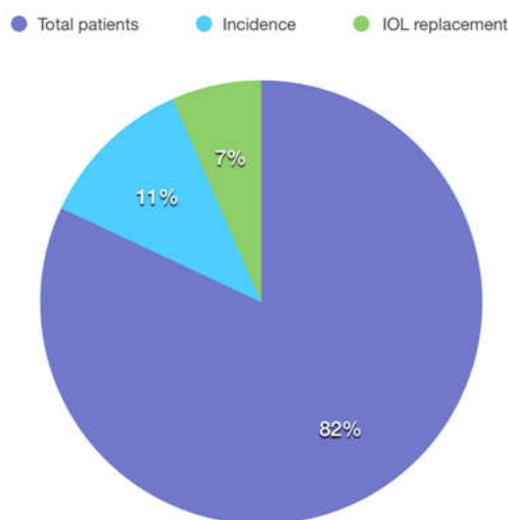
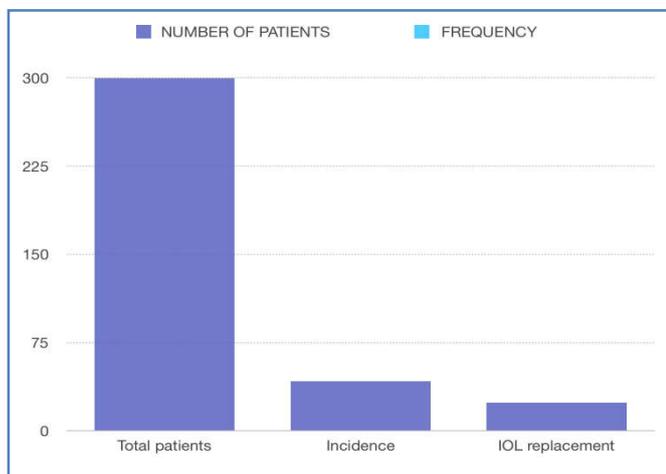
RESULTS

The study was conducted for 300 patients. Out of which 42 subjects (14%) had cataract and 24 subjects (8%) were ready

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for IOL Replacements. The graph, table and pie chart are mentioned below:

Options	Number of patients	Frequency
Total patients	300	
Incidence	42	14%
IOL replacement	24	8%



DISCUSSION

The present study is about the incidence of cataract and its spread among general populations. This is somewhat similar to the study done by Swanson. J. R et.al, the latter is about the prevalence of cataract (Behndig, 2011). only cataract is common to all countries regardless of their stage of economic development. With the general increase in life expectancy, cataract will become increasingly prevalent and will place greater demands on healthcare systems. However, since there are substantial differences in the prevalence and incidence of cataract in different areas, it cannot be regarded as a normal feature of ageing. The study done by Chandler et.al speaks about the differences seen in cataract among countries. The problem presented by cataract in developing countries is different from that in the industrialized countries (Lundström, 2002). A similar kind of study is done in Sweden in which the results. show that incidence of cataract has increased in the past 32 years (Ellwein, 1996 and Williams, 2006). Even in USA, a studies were done based on the incidence of cataract surgery (Erie, 2007; Baratz, 1997 and Klein, 1997). In the present study. The incidence of cataract was analysed for all

age groups and there was no exclusion. While in the study done by Schein.et.al, the incidence of cataract surgery was analysed only for people at the age of 65 or older (Schein, 2012). Out of 42 patients, only 24 patients have done IOL Replacement. There are many reasons for not doing the treatment. It might be due to economical reason, the patients are not completely aware about the treatment and the ill effects of cataract and final reason is they might have consulted another ophthalmologist and got the treatment done . A study was done by Zhou JB et.al about the awareness of cataract and its treatment among people in Eastern China (Zhou, 2008).

Conclusion

The number of subjects who had cataract is comparatively less in this study. It is mainly considered as a age related disease. The subjects who are ready for IOL Replacements are relatively less so proper awareness must be given about the treatment and the effects of Cataract.

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