

# Prevalence and pattern of refractive errors in school age children between 5 and 15 years

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## Abstract.

**Objective:** To determine the frequency of refractive error and its types in school age children between 5 and 15 years.

## Material and Methods

**Study Design:** Descriptive Cross Sectional Study.

**Setting:** The study was conducted at Pediatrics Eye OPD of Al-Shifa Trust Eye Hospital Rawalpindi.

**Sample Size:** The sample size was 170 children.

**Results:** The mean  $\pm$  SD age of the study patients was  $9.98 \pm 2.96$  years ranging from 5 to 15 years. Out of 170 children 54.71% were males while remaining 45.29% were females. Prevalence of Refractive error was found to be 21.76%. Considering the type of refractive error myopia was more prevalent 43.24% followed by astigmatism 32.43% and hyperopia 24.32%. **Conclusions:** Refractive error is common in the school age children between 05 and 15 years and if not early diagnosed and managed properly it can cause significant and permanent visual impairment. *Al-Shifa Journal of Ophthalmology 2016; 12(1): 45-52. © Al-Shifa Trust Eye Hospital, Rawalpindi, Pakistan.*

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