

ABSTRACT

Comparison of Visual Outcome after Refraction in Keratoconus associated with and without VKC

Kanwal Batool Dip.Optom. Amtul Aziz DOMS

Purpose: To compare the visual outcome after refraction in mild, moderate and severe keratoconus associated with and without vernal keratoconjunctivitis (VKC).

Design: Retrospective analysis of patients with keratoconus.

Participants: Patients treated at refraction unit of Cornea Clinic of Al-Shifa Trust Eye Hospital Rawalpindi

Methods: 286 eyes of 170 patients were studied. Each patient underwent complete ocular examination and corneal topography by an ophthalmologist and visual acuity, keratometry and refraction by an optometrist

Results: Majority of patients (94.11%) presented between 8-29 years of age. Mean age was 17.41 years; 5.85% patients presented between 30-45 years of age. 70.58% were male and 29.41% were female.. Out of 286 eyes with keratoconus, 16 eyes had mild keratoconus (K-readings < 48D), 51 eyes had moderate keratoconus (K-readings between 48-54D) and 219 eyes had severe keratoconus (K-readings > 54D). The VKC was associated with 44.75% of patients. Visual outcome was 6/9 or better in 27.69 % (36 eyes) without association of VKC and 8.59 % (11 eyes) in association with VKC

Conclusion: Visual outcome after refraction is comparatively worse in keratoconus patients associated with VKC due to photophobia, active conjunctivitis, scarring and vascularization. *Al-Shifa Journal of Ophthalmology 2007; 3(1): 15-19 © Al-Shifa Trust Eye Hospital, Rawalpindi, Pakistan*