

PREVALENCE OF HUMAN CATARACT IN KOLLAM DISTRICT OF KERALA STATE OF INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Aim

Hospital based study from April 2005 to March 2011 conducted among the population to determine the prevalence of cataract in Kollam district of Kerala state of India.

Methodology

The data's collected from registers of ophthalmology department of district hospital and two private hospitals in Kollam district to access the gender prevalence and prevalence of different age groups. The total number of cataract operation carried out in Kollam district was collected from Directorate of Health, Thiruvananthapuram to evaluate the prevalence among the total population. Significance of cataract prevalence was analysed using MATLAB and SPSS statistical package.

Results

Cataract prevalence in Kollam district was significantly increased from 0.24% to 0.44% ($p=0.0001$). Gender prevalence is significantly higher in females (58.2%, 0.000214) than in males, suggest that more cataract patients are females. A significantly highest prevalence recorded in the age group of 61-70 (31.4%, 0.00005) years as compared with other age group between 0-100 years.

Conclusions

The present studies of cataract prevalence in Kollam district may to some extent throw light on the gravity of cataract incidence in Kerala state. The present study has shown that Kerala has been able to arrest the increasing prevalence of blindness by improving the general health conditions of individuals and by decreasing the population growth. Cataract blindness in Kerala can be effectively controlled only if effective strategies are developed to reduce the incidence of blinding cataract.

KEYWORDS: Human Cataract, Prevalence, Kollam