

Magnitude of Visual Impairment and Associated Factors among Adult Glaucoma Patients Attending University of Gondar, Comprehensive Specialized Hospital, Tertiary Eye Care and Training Center, Northwest Ethiopia, 2022

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Abstract : Context: Glaucoma is a significant public health concern globally, being the second leading cause of blindness. This study focuses on adult glaucoma patients in Ethiopia, specifically at the University of Gondar. Research Aim: The main objective is to assess the prevalence of visual impairment and identify associated factors among adult glaucoma patients at the University of Gondar. Methodology: The study used an institution-based cross-sectional design, collecting data from 423 glaucoma patients through interviews and medical chart reviews. Descriptive statistics and logistic regression were employed for analysis. Findings: The study found a high prevalence of visual impairment (77.6%) among adult glaucoma patients, with factors such as female sex, rural residence, glaucoma type, disease stage, and duration of diagnosis significantly associated with visual impairment. Theoretical Importance: This research adds valuable insights into the prevalence and determinants of visual impairment among glaucoma patients in Ethiopia, contributing to the existing literature on eye health in low-resource settings. Data Collection: Data were collected through face-to-face interviews and medical chart reviews at the University of Gondar, utilizing a structured questionnaire. Analysis Procedures: Descriptive statistics, frequency analysis, and binary logistic regression were employed to analyze the data and identify factors associated with visual impairment in adult glaucoma patients. Question Addressed: The study sought to answer the question of the prevalence of visual impairment and its associated factors among adult glaucoma patients at the University of Gondar in Northwest Ethiopia. Conclusion: The research concludes that visual impairment is significantly high among adult glaucoma patients in this setting, with several factors playing a role in its occurrence.

Keywords : visual impairment, glaucoma, Ethiopia, Gondar

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