

Knowledge and Awareness Toward Eye Health and Disease of Children in Aseer Region, Saudi Arabia

Abdul- Rahman Alamri, MD* Shatha Mohammed D. Alshehri, MBBS** Shahad Yahya M. Alkhaldy, MBBS** Zyad Saad A Al-Asmari, MBBS** Zyad Saad M Alashqan, MBBS** Ahmad Ayed A Allbrahim, MBBS** Yazan Ahmed A Almaker, MBBS**

ABSTRACT

Introduction: Early childhood is critical for the development of the eyes and vision; any disruption at this time can result in serious visual impairment or even blindness. Children's eye examinations and treatment are not only a child's right, but also a requirement for correctly monitoring and evaluating the eyes and visual structure. The parents or guardians are responsible for making decisions about a child's eye care.

Methods: In this cross-sectional study, data were collected by the purposely constructed questionnaire. A questionnaire composed of the demographic items and items related to the awareness and knowledge about the Eye health. A questionnaire was constructed after the series of discussions between the panel of experts this panel was composed of a subject specialist, researcher, language expert. Cronbach alpha of the questionnaire was calculated.

Results: Out of 405 respondents, 12.8% were agreed that, after a chemical eye burn, it is recommended to wash the eye immediately with clean water, then taking the injured person to a hospital to continue treatment. 12.1% agreed that, Amblyopia (lazy eye) can be treated from adulthood and onwards.

Conclusion: In Saudi Arabia, parents' knowledge and awareness of eye care for their children is deemed inadequate. However, larger sample size studies are needed to confirm the current study's findings.

Keywords: Diseases, Eye, Awareness, Children

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* Professor
Department of Surgery
College of Medicine
King Khalid University Abha
Saudi Arabia.
E-mail: amaami@gmail.com

** Medical Student
King Khalid University