Keep drs visits, in the UK. Those at risk are advised to have a dilated eye examination at least once a year.

Treatment and outcome

The modern goals of glaucoma management are to avoid glaucomatous damage and nerve damage and preserve visual field and visual quality of life for patients. Therefore, there is no emergency to communicate with the treating physician to improve the drug therapy.

Intraocular pressure can be lowered with medications, usually eye drops. Several classes of medications are used to treat glaucoma, with several medications in each class. Each of these medications may have local or systemic side effects. Adherence to medication protocol can be confirmed and expeditious; if side effects occur, the patient must be willing either to tolerate them or to communicate with the treating physician. Initially, glaucoma drops may cause redness, stinging, or tearing.

During laser iridology, laser energy is used to make a small full-thickness opening in the iris to equalize the pressure inside the eye. The typical glaucoma patient will be treated with four to six laser procedures, each using a 10.6-μm wavelength. The procedure is performed under local anesthesia, and the patient is awake during the procedure.

Laser-assisted non-penetrating deep sclerectomy (LPS): The most common non-surgical procedure currently used for the treatment of glaucoma is trabeculoplasty, in which the laser is used to create a small hole in the eye to allow aqueous humor to flow out.

The severity of the condition is monitored by a combination of examination techniques, including visual field testing, optic nerve evaluation, and assessment of visual acuity. In cases of open angle glaucoma, the typical progression from normal vision to complete blindness takes 25 to 30 years without treatment, depending on the method of estimation used. The intraocular pressure can also have an effect, with higher pressure reducing time until blindness.

Conclusions

Glaucoma is painful, slow progressive vision loss to complete blindness over an extended period. Loss of vision is permanent. Increased eye pressure that leads to optic nerve damage is a contributory factor. There is no known cure for glaucoma.

Summary

Glaucoma is the leading cause of blindness after cataract. Individuals of Asian descent are prone to angle closure glaucoma due to shallower anterior chamber depths. People with family history of glaucoma are at higher risk. The major risk factor for glaucoma is the increased intraocular pressure. Early signs of glaucoma are gradual progression of visual field loss with no acute change in vision. However, there are signs to be aware of, such as changes in pupil shape, size, and movement. Early intervention is important to prevent vision loss.

Information provided in this paper is for the general information of readers only and not medical advice. People with signs and symptoms of glaucoma mentioned above should seek prompt treatment from medical professionals.