

R1 R2 R3 PG0 PG1 Estagiário Tecnólogo PIBIC

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Service (sector)
Trauma

Nº CEP

Epidemiology of ocular disorders at the Emergency Sector – six months evaluation

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Purpose: To evaluate the most common ocular disorders in Emergency Service using a data bank software.

Methods: A retrospective study included all patients with ocular complaints admitted to the Eye Emergency Room at the São Paulo Hospital from March 1st to August 31, 2000. The patients assisted during this period were daily registered in specific data bank software of the Ophthalmology Emergency Room's personal computer. Variables studied: sex, age, diagnosis and number of visits.

Results: The study included 10667 patients, 53% were male and 47% female. The average patient age was 41 years old. The most common diagnose was red eye due to acute conjunctivitis (16,3%), followed by miscellaneous (14,30% - including evaluation from another clinics, rare or not frequent ophthalmologic disorders, and all the cases with no specific diagnoses), and postoperative visits (10,38%) which were much more frequent on Saturdays (29% of the daily visits). There were 1701 return visits in a total of 12.368 during the six months, and 29% of the diagnoses were not considered emergencies.

Conclusions: Among the high number of visits in the Emergency Room, most of the cases require simple measures and can be treated in less complex health services. It is imperative for the Hospital São Paulo's Ophthalmology Emergency Room to create better system to select the patients that will be referred to a Primary or Secondary Ophthalmology Center and to dispose make available another examination room for the postoperative visits on Saturdays.