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Service (sector) Trauma N° CEP

### **Traumatic Hyphema in Children**

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Purpose: To study traumatic hyphema in children and its clinical features, in a tertiary center. Methods: From May 2000 to August 2001 all the children referred to the Emergence Room of the Hospital São Paulo / Department of Ophthalmology UNIFESP/EPM who sustained nonpenetrating trauma with hyphema were prospectively studied. Data regarding age, gender, visual acuity, intraocular pressure, biomicroscopy and fundoscopy (without scleral depression) were recorded in all the visits. Results: Forty-one children were included in this study. The mean age at inclusion was 7.7 years. Sixteen patients (39%) were female. Grade I hyphema was detected in 53.65% of the patients at inclusion, with a complete blood absorption within 11 days after the trauma. In 21.95% of the cases the intraocular pressure was elevated at the initial exam. Rebleeding was observed in 7.3% of the cases. All the patients received topical steroids and cycloplegics. Topical beta blockers were indicated only in selected cases. Thirty-six patients (87.80%) achieved a final visual acuity equal to 20/20. Conclusion: Traumatic hyphema in children, may have a good visual outcome with appropriate treatment. Poor final visual acuity is related to the presence of associated ocular injuries.