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Service (sector) Glaucoma N° CEP

**Evaluation of intraocular pressure and risk of glaucoma in corticosteroids users .**

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Purpose: evaluation of intraocular pressure (IOP) and risk of glaucoma in asthmatic patients on oral or inhaled corticosteroids Methods: Sixty seven asthmatic patients on steroids treatment were screened for glaucoma in a cross sectional study. Patients from 18 to 81 years of age using any type of corticosteroids were first submitted to pachimetry exam. A binary logistic regression was performed with ocular hypertension (defined as one eye with IOP higher than 20 mmHg) as a dependent variable. The risk factors analyzed were: (1) type of steroid, (2) positive family history for glaucoma, (3) type of asthma and (4) duration of the treatment. The information were analyzed from patient's file and interview. IOP was assessed using Goldmann aplanation tonometry. A clinical evaluation of the optic nerve head was performed with a slit lamp and a 78 D hand-held fundus lens. Results: None of the fifteen subjects with mild asthma had optic nerve head abnormalities or IOP higher than 20 mmHg. Sixteen percent of the moderate and 10,5% of the severe asthma group had optic nerve head abnormalities. Twenty one percent of the patients with severe asthma and 16,1% with moderate asthma presented IOP higher than 20mmHg. Multiple logistic regression was not able to find (with our sample size) no significant risk factor for ocular hypertension ( $P>0,05$ ).

Conclusion: There is a high prevalence of ocular hypertension in a population on steroids treatment. Sample size should be increased for more powerful risk factor analysis.