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Service (sector) Trauma - Emergency Unit N° CEP

**Epidemiologic findings of ocular trauma in elderly in an emergency service.**

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**PURPOSE:** To describe the epidemiologic findings of ocular trauma in elderly in an emergency unit. **METHOD:** Retrospective study. We revised patients' files age 60 years and older (WHO criteria – 1984) that were attended in Emergency Unit due ocular trauma according to age, gender, circumstance and mechanism of injury, involved eye, initial visual acuity and management. Data underwent descriptive analysis and classification. **RESULTS:** From May 2002 to July 2004 we included 82 patients in the study. The most prevalent age group was 60 to 65 years. The right eye was affected in 42, 68% of patients. Falling on the ground was the most common kind of injury (45,13%) and the commonest place was at home (46,34%). Initial visual acuity was better than 20/40 in majority of cases (grade I – Ocular Trauma International Classification). Globe closed injury happened in 87,65% of accidents.

**CONCLUSION:** Most ocular traumas happened in domestic environment and were caused by falls, being passive of prevention by simple strategies based on these findings.