

A Roadmap for the Medical Management of Glaucoma

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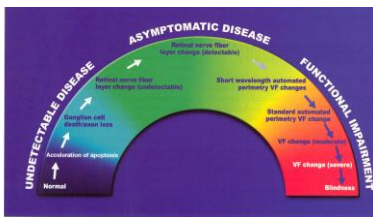
- Dr Schmidt is an advisor or consultant for the following:
 - Allergan
 - Teva
 - Eyegate
 - Trakant
 - Thera Pharmaceuticals
 - Topcon
 - B&B
 - Sight Science
 - Ambrion Life
 - WuXi
 - Apellis
 - Horizon Pharmaceuticals

Disclosure
Slide 1
Dr Eric Schmidt

To Treat or Not To Treat, That Is The Question!

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A Review Of Risk Factors

- FINDACAR
 - Family history
 - IOP
 - Nearsightedness
 - Diabetes/Vascular disease
 - Age
 - Corneal thickness
 - Asymmetry
 - Race

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Glaucoma Risk Factors

- FINDACAR
 - The more risk factors one has, the more likely one is to develop glaucoma
 - The more risk factors one has, the lower the IOP target should be

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How Can We Make A Difficult Decision Less Difficult?

- Get Data
 - What Data?
 - VF
 - PP
 - ODP
 - OSP
 - Pachymetry
 - Fam Hx
 - ODP

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- Glaucoma suspects can be (broadly) categorized into two groups:
 - Ocular hypertensive: subjects with risk factor for the future development of glaucoma
 - These patients are identified by OHTS data and **not** to treat
 - Subjects with questionable glaucomatous features that cannot definitely be distinguished from normal
 - e.g. symmetric cupping of optic disc, thin PCGs w/ VF loss, IOP that is 21 mmHg or lower

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Open Angle Glaucoma Suspect

- The Decision Tree
 - The patient without OCT, VF or OHT damage
 - This may be someone with IOP <21 or >21 mmHg

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- Rather than a simplistic approach of treating everyone with an IOP of over 21 mmHg, treatment is held off until there is sufficient evidence of glaucoma damage as some level (OCT, VF, ...)
- This is a practice philosophy that can be followed for low-risk patients
- Or, we elect to treat those with the most significant risk factors.

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- IOP 21-30+ mmHg with
 - Normal appearing or suspicious optic nerve. Low IOP reference
 - no visual field defects
 - some risk factors
- Follow OHTS Treatment Guidelines:

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- Management Options:
 - no single treatment plan nor guidelines, varies with every patient, clinic, or individual
 - Follow these patients every 3-6 months with observation and re-assess: OHT, VF, OCT, IOP
 - Wait until confirmation of new OCT/VF defect, OHT change
 - Or, add medical therapy for those with 3 or more risk factors:
 - poorly controlled family history
 - C/O cataract or previous surgery of the lens/iris
 - diabetic macular disease, etc.
 - Questionable visual field defects, fluctuating IOP

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- At any IOP
 - Glaucoma OHT Changes
 - As identified by you or via photograph, or
 - Strongly abnormal, characteristic and stable OCT
 - This may have some "clinical confirmation"
 - Rarely do you treat based upon this single finding, but color findings
 - Watch out for "Red Dosses"
 - Characteristic/Confirmed Visual Field Loss (not required for diagnosis)
- OHTN with IOP over 30 mmHg
 - Some exceptions, eg very thick cornea

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Glaucoma diagnosis can be a very complex



- Requirements
 - Organized, step-by-step approach
 - Sort and organize the data
 - Identify good data
 - Ignore bad/unreliable data
 - Confirm data when necessary
 - Sort and organize again
 - No need to rush your decision
 - Individualize to your patient
- Begin therapy (later) or monitor

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When you have enough compelling evidence - you treat!

- Look to the OHTS Study for guidance
- Look to Murray for guidance!

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Ocular Hypertension

When do you treat – sometime, all the never, never?

Can OHT progress to glaucoma if it is treated?

What are the downsides to therapy?

When not treat everyone w/ elevated IOP?

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Ocular Hypertension

- Definition of ocular hypertension
 - IOP 21 mm Hg or higher
 - Based upon Arnall statistical definition of OHTN
 - Not based upon clinical findings
 - Visual Fields Full
 - Optic nerve considered Full
 - This part of definition is changing with OCT use allowing subtle optic nerve/RNFL changes to be detected
- Consider therapy based upon risk of developing glaucoma over lifetime
 - Concept of risk assessment!
- Therapy is often considered optional since true damage is not present
- Still not clear if early therapy (before damage) alters long-term outcome
 - OHTS III was meant to answer this question

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The Swinging Pendulum of Therapy for Ocular Hypertension

- 1960s IOP > 21 mm Hg Treat
- 1970s IOP > 21 mm Hg No Tx
 - Decade of Ocular Hypertension
- 1980s IOP > 21 mm Hg Tx/No Tx
 - 1982 Quigley paper field loss late sign OAG
 - Concept of risk factor analysis
- 1990s IOP > 21 mm Hg Tx/No Tx
 - Earlier therapy once latanoprost introduced

Ocular Hypertension

- Many years ago, everyone with elevated IOP was treated
- Recognition that about 1% per year convert from OHTN to glaucoma
- Those converting have greatest risk
 - thinner cornea, African American, larger cupping
- Led to the concept of risk assessment
- OHTS provided information on when to treat
 - European Glaucoma Prevention Study (EGPS) also provided risk information



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Treating ocular hypertension
Risk assessment

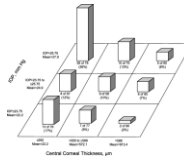
- Consider number of risks individual has that increases chance for glaucomatous damage
- Based upon evidence
- Studies include Ocular Hypertension Treatment Study (OHTS) and European Glaucoma Prevention Study (EGPS)
- If we are going to treat ocular hypertension, at what risk level?
 - 10% vs. 15% vs. 20%
 - Begin prophylactic therapy
- Uses concept from Framingham Heart Study

Risk Calculator in Glaucoma

- Whom and when to treat Ocular Hypertension (OHTN) is not well defined
 - OHTS study provides data on conversion rates
 - Use this data to determine when to treat
 - Still problem with OHTS study is that it was done primarily in Caucasian cohort
- Treatment of Hypertension and Elevated Cholesterol are similar to OHTN therapy
 - Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) and Glaucoma are chronic diseases and difficult to treat
 - Treatment outcomes differ between conditions
 - Glaucoma chronic
 - CHD can result in sudden death
 - Approach in developing prevention strategies is similar

Risk Assessment

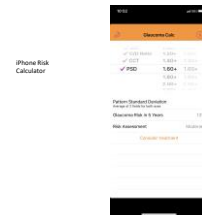
- Risk Level Low < 5%
 - Monitor
- Risk Level Moderate 5-15%
 - Consider Therapy
 - Discuss with patient
- Risk Level High >15%
 - Treat



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Risks

- OHTS
 - IOP
 - Corneal thickness
 - Cup/Disc ratio
 - VF status
- Other risks
 - Family history
 - Race including Hispanic
- Newer risks
 - Alcohol use
 - Cigarette smoking
 - Diabetes?
 - Age at menopause
 - Ovarian surgery
 - Physical activity
 - Metabolic diseases
 - Hypertension, cholesterol, cardiopulmonary diseases
 - Sleep apnea

Ocular Hypertension

- Treat when risk is significant but....
- Need to include patient in discussion about therapy
- Some patients would like OHTN to be treated when risk is present while others would rather not be treated
- Glaucoma is a slow-moving disease so can monitor those with OHTN safely without therapy
- Still not clear how soon therapy should be initiated

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Starting Therapy

Target IOP

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Medical Options

Glaucoma Treatment Universe 2024

- ▶ Prostaglandins
- ▶ Alpha agonists
- ▶ Rho-kinase inhibitors
- ▶ Beta-blockers
- ▶ Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibitors
- ▶ Combo Agents
- ▶ SLT
- ▶ MIGS
- ▶ Glaucoma Surgery
- ▶ How Do You Know Which Category To Choose??

What Are You Trying To Achieve?

- ▶ Optimal IOP Reduction
- ▶ Minimal Side Effects
- ▶ Rigid Compliance
- ▶ Anything Else?

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Prostaglandin analogs

- ▶ Lower IOP by enhancing uveoscleral outflow
- ▶ They also reduce episcleral venous pressure
- ▶ PGAs work by causing up to a 26% reduction in resistance to outflow
- ▶ Breaks down collagen in the uveoscleral meshwork
- ▶ Create new channels for outflow

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PGA

- ▶ QHS dosing
- ▶ Long duration of action
- ▶ Flatten diurnal curve
- ▶ Effective on trough and peak IOP
- ▶ No systemic side effects
- ▶ Little tachyphylaxis

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Prostaglandin Side Effects

- ▶ Conjunctival hyperemia: Severe hyperemia
 - ▶ Lumigan 3.5%
 - ▶ Travatan 1.5%
 - ▶ Xalatan 0.1%
 - ▶ "Wash it!!" (wash??)
- ▶ Is this a transient phenomenon?
- ▶ Is it an allergic conjunctivitis?
- ▶ Is it worth stopping the drop?

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Conjunctival hyperemia

- ▶ PGAs have an effect on EP receptors which are vasodilators
- ▶ The stronger the drug binds to that receptor the more pronounced the vasodilation effect will be - Oh Really!!
- ▶ Will switching from 1 PGA to another decrease the hyperemia effect?

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Prostaglandin Side Effects

- ▶ Iris pigmentation
 - ▶ Is it reversible?
 - ▶ Is it pre-saccular?
- ▶ Xalatan - 6.7% @ 6mths
16% @ 12mths
- ▶ Travatan - 3% @ 12 mths
- ▶ Lumigan - 1.9% @ 12mths
- ▶ SO?

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Other Prostaglandin side effects

- ▶ CAE
 - ▶ Uveitis
 - ▶ Reactivation of HSV
 - ▶ Hypertichiasis
 - ▶ Periorbital skin darkening
 - ▶ Periorbital fat atrophy
- ▶ One must take into consideration the benefits of low IOP with the risks of the side effects

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Prostaglandins

- ▶ Oh sure, we know they are good, but just how good are they?
 - ▶ Average IOP drop of 34%
 - ▶ Improved compliance
 - ▶ Excellent safety profiles
- ▶ In general, PGAs are the initial therapy of choice.

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Prostaglandins

- ▶ All decrease IOP by increasing uveoscleral outflow
- ▶ All are effective at squashing the diurnal curve
- ▶ They have either no effect or a positive effect on retinal perfusion
- ▶ Some affect nitric oxide at the optic disk
- ▶ Some have BAK, others don't
- ▶ But does 1 work better than the others?

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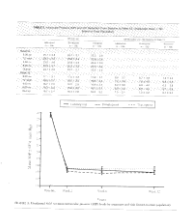
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XLT Study - Parrish, Palmberg, et. al. (AJO, May 2003, Vol. 135, No.5)

- ▶ Multicenter study to compare IOP lowering efficacy of Brimonoprost vs Latanoprost vs Travoprost
- ▶ Also compared safety profiles of the 3 drugs
- ▶ Conclusions: All 3 drugs were comparable in their ability to lower IOP at all time periods.
- ▶ Latanoprost exhibited greater ocular tolerability

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- ▶ Reduces IOP by 32%
 - ▶ 1.2mm HG lower than latanoprost
 - ▶ Preserves VF better by 10%
 - ▶ No loss of effect while sleeping
- ▶ Improved side effect profile
- ▶ Releases nitric oxide at the trabecular meshwork level

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- ▶ Effect of latanoprostene bundon on Optic Nerve Head Flow
- ▶ Samaha, Diaconu et al, IOVS, Feb 2022, Vol 9, Is 2 pp172-176
- ▶ Purpose was to evaluate effect of latanoprostene bundon on optic nerve blood volume and O2 saturation - IN HEALTHY SUBJECTS
- ▶ Measurements were taken before initiating therapy and then 7 days after QD therapy of both Latanoprost and latanoprostene bundon

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- ▶ ONH saturated O2 levels were 4% higher with Vyzulta than latanoprost
- ▶ ONH blood volume was way higher with Vyzulta
 - ▶ 66% higher at Hr 1, 45% higher at Hr 2
- ▶ What is the clinical significance of this?

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Are generics really as good as branded products?

What about when it comes to prostaglandins?

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But really... Is There Anything New??

lyuzeh (latanoprost 0.005%)
Thea Pharmaceuticals

Let's talk about this...



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- Does that sound familiar?
- Monoprost (in Europe) - the market leader in PGA in Europe
- This actually is PRESERVATIVE FREE latanoprost!
- Single dose container
- But does it really work??

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lyuzeh - Phase 3 data

- Compared to Xalatan (Switch Study)
- Stable POAG pcs on Xalatan
- 8 day washout period
- 3 months on lyuzeh
- IOP reduction was 4-8mm Hg on Xalatan
- IOP reduction was 3-8mm Hg on lyuzeh
- Baseline IOP was 19mmHG!

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lyuzeh - Phase 3 data-Adverse Effects

- Xalatan group
 - Hyperemia - 31%
 - Eye Irritation - 34%
- lyuzeh Group
 - Hyperemia - 34%
 - Eye Irritation - 19%
- ZERO reports of SPK

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- European data - Higher baseline IOP (24mm Hg)
 - IOP lowered to 15.5mm Hg
 - Same rate of adverse effects
- Roche's data (2021 ASC)
 - 12 weeks trial comparing to Xalatan
 - Similar IOP reductions (as measured by ability to get IOP <18mm Hg)
 - 2x eye irritation (ocular irritation)
 - 10 SPK
 - fewer ocular side effects (3.9% vs 22.5%)
- INDY study
 - 10% increased area
 - 47 usage decreased 4%

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#What's The Big Deal??



- OSD is an epidemic in glaucoma
- Will this improve compliance?
- Will this cost \$1M?
- Is it better than what we have?

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Are we going to see a trend towards Preservative free glaucoma drops??

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Beta-blockers

- 40 year history of successfully lowering IOP
- Reduces aqueous humor formation
- Adrenergic agonists
- Lowers IOP 22-28%
- Ocularly well tolerated

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Beta-blocker side effects

- ▶ Cardiac problems
 - ▶ Bradycardia
 - ▶ Hypotension
 - ▶ Exercise intolerance
 - ▶ Heart block
- ▶ Respiratory problems
 - ▶ Bronchospasm
 - ▶ Status asthmaticus

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Beta-blocker side effects

- ▶ CNS
 - ▶ Often overlooked
 - ▶ ACID
 - ▶ Anxiety
 - ▶ Confusion
 - ▶ Impotence
 - ▶ Depression
 - ▶ General decreased affect
- ▶ Diabetic problems
 - ▶ Decreased sense of caloric need due to depressed adrenergic surge

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Beta-blocker side effects

- ▶ 22% of pts have contraindication to or significant side effect from beta-blocker
- ▶ Question, query and query some more!
- ▶ Be specific:
- ▶ Remember the dose relationship so:
 - ▶ 1% rather than 10%
 - ▶ QD rather than BID
- ▶ They are real (may be anecdotal)

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Works at the cellular level within the trabecular meshwork

ROCK inhibitors improve outflow by relaxing contraction and stress fibers at the L.T.M.

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- ▶ Rhopressa QD is non-inferior to timolol 0.5% BID in lowering IOP
- ▶ Expected IOP reduction 3.7-7.0mm Hg
- ▶ Rhopressa seems to be better at lowering IOP (as compared to itself) in pressures < 20mm Hg
- ▶ IOP lowering effect is maintained over 12 months
- ▶ Was given a broad label by FDA

0.02%

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Generally well tolerated	
Conjunctival hyperemia - 53%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did not worsen with time • Mild 18.8%, moderate - 10.5%, severe - 0.6% • D/C rate due to redness - 3%
Corneal verticillata - 18%	
Conjunctival hemorrhage - 18%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All are transient and considered mild

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New MOA so... it is absolutely different

It should be additive

Definitely works better at lower IOP

What about side effects?

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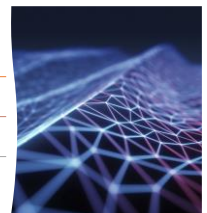
M.O.S.T. Study

- Real World Open Label Phase 4 Study
- ASCRS 2020
- To determine efficacy of Rhopressa as an adjunct med
- Investigator's Choice - Rhopressa + any other agent
- 24.4% African-American participants

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M.O.S.T. Results

- Rhopressa + PGA - IOP 21.1 > 16.9 mmHg (20% reduction)
- Rhopressa + 2 meds - 20.6 > 16.6 mmHg (20% reduction)
- Notice the low baseline IOP



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More M.O.S.T. Results

- % of pts less than < 18mm Hg
 - <18mm - 72.7 % (from 34.4%)
 - <17mm - 62% (from 25.2%)
 - <15mm - 40.6% (from 15.9%)
 - <14mm - 30.1% (from 11.3%)
- 2/3 of all patients achieved IOP < 17mm Hg

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M.O.S.T. Tolerability rates

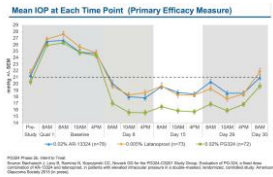
Hyperemia – 20.* %
D/C rate – hyperemia 3.4%
Tolerability rating
 67.8-73.2% good or decent (Symptomatic response)
 65-78% good or decent (Patient response)

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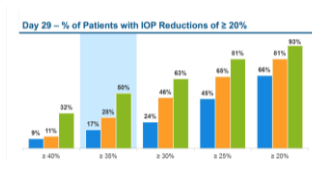
Roclatan – Aerie

- Fixed Combination drug – Rhopressa + latanoprost
- QD dosing
- “Quadruple acting” MOA – (adds increased uveoscleral outflow)
- IOP lowering better than either of its components
- Potential to be very effective – lowered IOP an additional 2-3 mm compared to Rhopressa (and other PGAs)

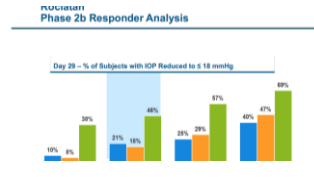
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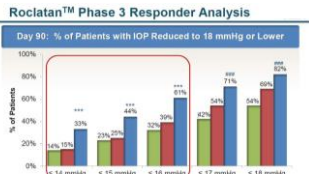
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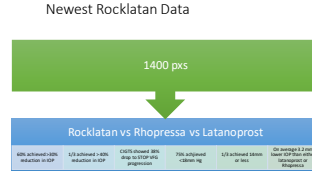
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Newest side effect data

- No tachyphylaxis at 12 months
- No unexpected A.E.
- Very few serious A.E. - majority are mild
- 58% hyperemia but 5% d/c rate
- 20% instillation pain – 0% d/c
- 10% subconj heme – 0% d/c

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Adrenergic Agonists

- ▶ Dual mechanism of action
 1. Reduce aqueous production
 2. Enhance outflow mechanisms
- ▶ 22-28% IOP reduction
- ▶ Short duration of action
- ▶ TID dosing
- ▶ Avoid in kids

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Mechanism of Action of Brimonidine-PURITE®

- ▶ Complements PGA because it decreases aqueous production
- ▶ Complements timolol because it increases uveoscleral outflow

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Brimonidine side effects

- ▶ 10-20%
 - ▶ Hyperemia
 - ▶ Allergic conjunctivitis
 - ▶ Ocular pruritis
- ▶ 5-9%
 - ▶ burning sensation,
 - ▶ conjunctival folliculosis,
 - ▶ ocular allergic reaction,
 - ▶ oral dryness,
 - ▶ visual disturbance
- ▶ Do these worsen with time?
- ▶ How do you know if the drops are the culprit?

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Alphagan systemic side effects

- ▶ Dry mouth (~20%)
- ▶ Fatigue (1-2%)
- ▶ Drowsiness
- ▶ Decreased BP
- ▶ This drug can cross blood-brain barrier, esp in older and younger pts

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Brimonidine questions

- ▶ What is the correct dosage?
- ▶ Which of the 3 products should be prescribed?
- ▶ Can it be used as stand alone therapy?
- ▶ Effect on diurnal curve?
- ▶ What Happens if Hypersensitivity To 0.2% Brimonidine Occurs?

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Let's talk (quickly) about combo drops!

- ▶ What are their advantages?
- ▶ What about their side effects?
- ▶ Are they twice as good as their individual components?

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ME

Drug Delivery Options

Is this where therapy is going?

Drug Delivery

- Why
 - ▶ Reduce need for patient to take their drops
 - ▶ Most of studies have shown majority of eye drops not taken
 - Leads to worsening of condition
- Different ways to get medication into eye
 - ▶ Inject into AC
 - ▶ Contact lens
 - ▶ Punctal plug
 - ▶ Mist spray/thicken drug increasing contact time
 - ▶ Reservoir tucked into trabeculum
- Types – temporary vs. semi-permanent vs. permanent
- What are the downsides?
 - ▶ Cost of device/procedure and implant outweigh cost of eye drop?
 - ▶ Side effects of medication
 - ▶ Complications for placing medication into eye

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Adherence to IOP-Lowering Therapy Is a Complex, Multifaceted Problem^{1,2}

Adherence includes both persistency and compliance issues¹

Components of successful adherence¹

- Successfully obtain medication
- Correctly instill drops into eye
- Use drops at appropriate times
- Use drops every day without pain

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Compliance really is a hot topic

Dr David Friedman – OGF Educators Meeting 9/19
 Looked at compliance studies in glaucoma- found that 70% compliance with medications was average
 But is that good enough to preserve VF?
 Friedman also showed that those who said they missed their drops some of the time, actually used their drops ~50% of the time.
 That was much worse than those who say they never miss their drops

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Predictors of Poor Adherence – Friedman 2019

Gaps in Visits
 Patients Don't Understand Severity Of Disease
 Cost of Drops (25%)
 Those who Travel A Lot
 Younger Pts and Very Old Pts
 African-Americans
 Those In Poor Health
 - These drop adherence to <60%

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Compliance, adherence and side effects of therapy

Compliance decreases the more bottles Rx'd
 Robin – Each extra bottle used decreased compliance by 1/3
 The more topical meds used the more ocular side effects occur
 OSD in G pts (way) higher than initially thought
 60% of G pts use ocular lubricants

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What are the biggest barriers to proper compliance?

1. Forgetfulness
 2. Ability to put drops in
 3. Unaware of the importance of the drops
- Cost was not in the top 5!!!

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Ways To Improve Compliance

See Pts more frequently... especially early in treatment
 Improve tracking system – better identify no shows
 Call/email appointment reminders
 Reminders to pts to take their drops
 Change Dr/Patient intervention
 G pts ask 3.2 questions at visit whereas in other chronic diseases pts ask ~ 6 questions/visit

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MF

When Should Patients Return?

Managing Glaucoma

When Should Patients Return?

- Baseline period – making the diagnosis whether it is OHTN or Glaucoma
 - Important to have good quality visual fields and OCT as therapy is initiated
 - If therapy is initiated, then see 2-6 weeks afterwards
 - Making sure the medication/procedure is tolerated and effective
 - Having only one good therapy IOP measurement can be misleading
 - If not at target IOP, see sooner
 - Follow up period is for first year
 - If the person has mild to moderate glaucoma, examine every three months
 - Fields and imaging done at 6, 12, 18, 24 months
 - If stable and good quality can reduce interval for both doing fields/imaging and when to examine patient
- Stable vs. Uncontrolled

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Ocular hypertension

- See on 6-month basis with imaging/fields done yearly
- May reevaluate over time

When Should Patients Return?

- Is there a need to do visual fields after the initial assessment if the patient is stable?
 - If OCT is stable, why do a field?
- Which fields to do?
 - 24-2 vs. 24-2C vs. 10-2
 - SITA Standard vs. Fast vs. Faster
 - What about bundling fields
 - Do 2 SITA Fasten fields at one visit separating by few minutes

Advancing Therapy

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Dry Eye and Glaucoma

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Ocular Hypertension

- New risks are being discovered
 - Cigarette smoking
 - Alcohol
 - Time for menopause

Abstract
 Purpose: To evaluate the association between cigarette smoking and alcohol consumption and the risk of ocular hypertension (OHT) in a population-based study.
 Design: Cohort study.
 Setting: The Rotterdam Study, a population-based cohort study in Rotterdam, The Netherlands.
 Participants: 10,000 participants aged 45 to 90 years at baseline.
 Measurements and Main Results: We used data from the Rotterdam Study to evaluate the association between cigarette smoking and alcohol consumption and the risk of OHT. We used logistic regression to estimate the odds ratios (ORs) for OHT in current and former smokers and in those who consumed alcohol and those who did not. We also evaluated the interaction between smoking and alcohol consumption.
 Conclusions: Current smoking was associated with a higher risk of OHT (OR 1.25, 95% CI 1.05-1.48). Former smoking was not associated with OHT. Alcohol consumption was not associated with OHT. There was no interaction between smoking and alcohol consumption.
 Translational Relevance: Current smoking is associated with a higher risk of OHT. Alcohol consumption is not associated with OHT. There is no interaction between smoking and alcohol consumption.

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The Association of Alcohol Consumption with Glaucoma and Related Traits
Findings from the UK Biobank

Background: Alcohol consumption is associated with glaucoma and related traits. However, the underlying mechanisms are unclear. We investigated the association of alcohol consumption with glaucoma and related traits in the UK Biobank.

Methods: We used Mendelian randomization (MR) to investigate the causal relationship between alcohol consumption and glaucoma and related traits. We used genetic variants associated with alcohol consumption as instrumental variables. We used the UK Biobank data to estimate the associations.

Results: We found a causal association between alcohol consumption and glaucoma. The association was stronger for glaucoma with optic atrophy. We also found associations between alcohol consumption and related traits such as intraocular pressure, retinal thickness, and visual evoked potentials.

Conclusions: Our findings suggest that alcohol consumption may have a causal effect on glaucoma and related traits. Further research is needed to elucidate the underlying mechanisms.

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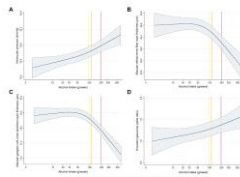


Fig 1. Mendelian randomization estimates for glaucoma and related traits. The MR estimates are shown for glaucoma, glaucoma with optic atrophy, intraocular pressure, and retinal thickness. The x-axis represents the genetic risk score for alcohol consumption, and the y-axis represents the MR estimate.

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Background/plenary: risk mediators: the association between glucose and cardiovascular disease and measures of adiposity from the UK Biobank

Background: Glucose metabolism is a key determinant of cardiovascular disease risk. We investigated the association between glucose and cardiovascular disease and measures of adiposity in the UK Biobank.

Methods: We used Mendelian randomization (MR) to investigate the causal relationship between glucose and cardiovascular disease and measures of adiposity. We used genetic variants associated with glucose as instrumental variables. We used the UK Biobank data to estimate the associations.

Results: We found a causal association between glucose and cardiovascular disease. The association was stronger for cardiovascular disease with atherosclerosis. We also found associations between glucose and measures of adiposity such as BMI, waist circumference, and visceral fat.

Conclusions: Our findings suggest that glucose may have a causal effect on cardiovascular disease and measures of adiposity. Further research is needed to elucidate the underlying mechanisms.

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What already knows on this topic:
 → Glaucoma has been associated with several cardiovascular diseases.

What this study adds:
 → This study found that the association between glaucoma and cardiovascular disease is primarily driven by genetic risk factors for glaucoma.

→ Those who developed glaucoma despite having low genetic risk tended to have a higher prevalence of cardiovascular disease, particularly diabetes, chronic kidney disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and cholesterol level.

How this study might affect research, practice or policy:
 → An individual's genetic risk for glaucoma may underestimate a other genetic risk factors for cardiovascular disease.

→ These findings may have implications for genetic or cardiometabolic disease screening as the use of genotyping becomes more common in the clinical setting.

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The Association between Serum Lipids and Intraocular Pressure in 2 Large United Kingdom Cohorts

Background: Serum lipids and intraocular pressure (IOP) are both risk factors for cardiovascular disease. We investigated the association between serum lipids and IOP in two large UK cohorts.

Methods: We used Mendelian randomization (MR) to investigate the causal relationship between serum lipids and IOP. We used genetic variants associated with serum lipids as instrumental variables. We used the UK Biobank and the Medical Research Council (MRC) Health Survey for England data to estimate the associations.

Results: We found a causal association between serum lipids and IOP. The association was stronger for IOP with atherosclerosis. We also found associations between serum lipids and related traits such as BMI, waist circumference, and visceral fat.

Conclusions: Our findings suggest that serum lipids may have a causal effect on IOP and related traits. Further research is needed to elucidate the underlying mechanisms.

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Plasma metabolic profile for primary open-angle glaucoma in three US cohorts and the UK Biobank

Background: Primary open-angle glaucoma (POAG) is a leading cause of blindness. We investigated the plasma metabolic profile for POAG in three US cohorts and the UK Biobank.

Methods: We used Mendelian randomization (MR) to investigate the causal relationship between plasma metabolic profile and POAG. We used genetic variants associated with plasma metabolic profile as instrumental variables. We used the three US cohorts and the UK Biobank data to estimate the associations.

Results: We found a causal association between plasma metabolic profile and POAG. The association was stronger for POAG with atherosclerosis. We also found associations between plasma metabolic profile and related traits such as BMI, waist circumference, and visceral fat.

Conclusions: Our findings suggest that plasma metabolic profile may have a causal effect on POAG and related traits. Further research is needed to elucidate the underlying mechanisms.

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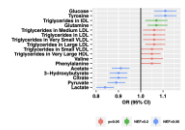


Fig 1. Individual resolution test results for glaucoma. The MR estimates are shown for glaucoma, glaucoma with optic atrophy, intraocular pressure, retinal thickness, and visual evoked potentials. The x-axis represents the genetic risk score for glaucoma, and the y-axis represents the MR estimate.

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Is Genetic Risk for Sleep Apnea Causally Linked With Glaucoma Susceptibility?

Background: Sleep apnea and glaucoma are both common conditions. We investigated the causal relationship between sleep apnea and glaucoma susceptibility.

Methods: We used Mendelian randomization (MR) to investigate the causal relationship between sleep apnea and glaucoma susceptibility. We used genetic variants associated with sleep apnea as instrumental variables. We used the UK Biobank data to estimate the associations.

Results: We found a causal association between sleep apnea and glaucoma susceptibility. The association was stronger for glaucoma with optic atrophy. We also found associations between sleep apnea and related traits such as BMI, waist circumference, and visceral fat.

Conclusions: Our findings suggest that sleep apnea may have a causal effect on glaucoma susceptibility and related traits. Further research is needed to elucidate the underlying mechanisms.

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Strengths and Limitations of This Study

→ Based on the UK Biobank data, this is the first large prospective cohort study to comprehensively assess the association of sleep biomarkers and patterns with glaucoma.

→ The application of cluster analysis (ie, multiple correspondence analysis (MCA) and a k-means clustering algorithm) enabled us to extract the most informative sleep patterns that infrequently existed in the study population. Consequently, the exposed and reference groups in our analyses are realistic and mutually exclusive, leading to the most meaningful comparisons.

→ A wide range of important confounders were considered in the multiple sleep diagnostic information available in our study. However, information was available on socioeconomic factors, lifestyle, and genetic covariates.

→ The data were obtained from the UK Biobank but are not a representative sample of the entire UK population. The generalization of our findings to the entire UK or other populations needs further assessment.

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Associations of sleep apnoea with glaucoma and age-related macular degeneration: an analysis in the United Kingdom Biobank and the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging

Shahmoradian L, Sattar S, Kivimaki M, et al. *BMJ Medicine* 2023;5(5):e007979

Abstract Sleep apnoea is a common sleep-related breathing disorder. It is characterised by sleep apnoea episodes during breathing and oxygen deprivation of the upper airway and lower airway. This study investigated the associations of sleep apnoea with glaucoma and age-related macular degeneration (AMD) in the United Kingdom Biobank and the Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging. The study included 427 480 UK Biobank participants and 10 020 Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging participants. The associations of sleep apnoea with glaucoma and AMD were investigated in a cross-sectional design. The associations of sleep apnoea with glaucoma and AMD were investigated in a cross-sectional design. The associations of sleep apnoea with glaucoma and AMD were investigated in a cross-sectional design.

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Results During the 3-year follow-up in the UK Biobank, glaucoma incidence rates per 1000 person-years were 2.46 and 1.59 for participants with and without sleep apnoea, and the AMD incidence rates per 1000 person-years were 2.27 and 1.42 for participants with and without sleep apnoea, respectively. Multivariable adjusted hazard ratios of glaucoma and AMD risk for sleep apnoea were 1.33 (95% confidence interval [CI] 1.19-1.48, $P < 0.001$) and 1.39 (95% CI 1.15-1.68, $P < 0.001$) relative to participants without sleep apnoea. In the CSA cohort, disease information was collected through in-person interview questionnaires. During the 3-year follow-up, glaucoma incidence rates per 1000 person-years for those with and without sleep apnoea were 9.31 and 6.97, and the AMD incidence rates per 1000 person-years were 8.44 and 6.67, respectively. In the CSA, similar associations were identified, with glaucoma and AMD odds ratios of 1.43 (95% CI 1.13-1.78) and 1.39 (95% CI 1.08-1.77), respectively, in participants with sleep apnoea compared to those without sleep apnoea ($P < 0.001$).

Conclusions In two large-scale prospective cohort studies, sleep apnoea is associated with a higher risk of both glaucoma and AMD. These findings indicate that patients with sleep apnoea might benefit from regular ophthalmologic examinations.

Keywords: Sleep apnoea, Glaucoma, Age-related macular degeneration, UK Biobank, CSA, Cohort study

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Abstract This study examined the association between dietary intake and glaucoma in the 2002-2008 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES). Dietary intake was assessed using 24-hour recall of dietary intake and

Keywords: Dietary intake, Glaucoma, NHANES

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Thank You!!!

Key Points

Question To what extent are systemic calcium channel blockers, a commonly prescribed medication class, associated with glaucoma and clinically relevant related traits?

Findings In this cross-sectional study of 427 480 adult UK Biobank participants, calcium channel blocker use was inversely associated with glaucoma prevalence and optical coherence tomography-derived inner retinal thickness, but not intraocular pressure.

Meaning These findings suggest that calcium channel blockers may represent an important modifiable risk factor for glaucoma, potentially through an intracellular pressure-independent mechanism.

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