Abstract

Paediatric Glaucoma (PG) is an increase in intraoccular pressure that is noticed at birth or during the early years of life. It is the leading cause of blindness and represents a significant threat to the patients vision. PG therefore is an important healthcare burden. A literature review into the pathophysiology, risk factors and diagnosis will be conducted. The current management of this condition and future innovative plans to tackle PG will also be reviewed. The majority of PG cases result in damage to the delicate nerve fibres of the optic nerve. Therefore, various techniques have been used to manage this and optimise remaining vision. Medical management often involves eye drops or oral medications which decrease fluid production in the eye or increase the exit of fluid from the eye. Both subsequently decrease eye pressure. Two main surgical techniques exist: trabeculotomy and goniotomy, which open drainage canals. Despite these treatments being successful for most, there are patients with refractory glaucoma. There is little consensus on how to treat these groups. Glaucoma drainage devices are the current mainstay of treatment for those with failed surgeries but contemporary literature about 10 year success of these are limited. The knowledge base of PG continues to improve. Therefore, with increased understanding of pathogenesis, it is believed future work should focus on pharmacologic management.