

An analysis of patients with Chronic Dacryocystitis

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Purpose: 1. To study the numbers and demographic patterns of patients presenting with chronic dacryocystitis. 2. To study its different presentations. 3. To determine the indications for simple dacryocystorhinostomy, dacryocystorhinostomy with intubation, dacryocystectomy and canaliculo-dacryocystorhinostomy in adult patients. 4 To study the indications for dacryocystorhinostomy with and without intubation in children. **Design.** A hospital based retrospective case study **Period.** 2 years from December, 2000 to November, 2002. **Results.** We analysed 341 eyes of 313 patients who were suffering from chronic dacryocystitis and were admitted to Khyber Institute of Ophthalmic Medical Sciences during the period of December 2000 and November 2002. The total numbers of admissions during this period were 6210, thus the patients with chronic dacryocystitis constituted 5.47% of the total admission. The most common age at presentation was over 60 years (98 cases (31.30%)) followed by 93 cases (29.71%) between age 40 and 60 years. Females were affected more often than males (191 cases (61.02%) vs 122 cases (38.97%)). surgery was required on the left side in 159 eyes (46.62%), right side in 154 eyes (45.16%) and bilateral in 28 cases (8.22%). Duration of epiphora was between 1 year to 5 years in 147 eyes (43.10%) and between 4 months to 1 year in 74 eyes (21.70%). The most common presentation was epiphora in 246 eyes (72.14%), followed by mucocele in 42 eyes (12.31%) and acute on chronic dacryocystitis in 32 eyes (9.38%). The most common indication for surgery was involutinal stenosis in 271 eyes (79.47%), followed by congenital nasolacrimal duct obstruction in 61 eyes (17.88%). In adults, simple dacryocystorhinostomy was done in 230 eyes (67.44%) and dacryocystorhinostomy with silicone intubation in 44 eyes (12.90%). Intubation was done in cases of post traumatic obstruction and in cases with history of failed dacryocystorhinostomies. Dacryocystectomy was required in 5 eyes (1.46%) and canaliculo-dacryocystorhinostomy in 1 eye (0.29%). In children, dacryocystorhinostomies were