

Outcome of day-care surgery for age-related cataracts, garissa general hospital, KenyaAbstract:

To determine the outcome of surgeries for age related cataracts at Garissa Provincial General Hospital for the last four months of year 2008. Design: Retrospective record review Setting: Eye clinic, Garissa Provincial General Hospital Methods: Records for 182 surgeries for age related cataracts were retrieved and analysed retrospectively. Results: A total of 182 surgeries were reviewed, 81 (44.5%) were male patients and 101 (55.5%) were female patients. The average age for the patients undergoing the cataract surgeries was 67 years(SD 11.2). All operated eyes had a vision of 6/60 or worse before surgery. Fifty four patients (29.4%) were blind before surgery and 56 operated eyes (30.8%) had significant ocular co-morbidity. One month after surgery, 124 patients (68%) turned up for review and 87 (70.2%) had a good outcome, 24(19.4%) moderate and 13(10.5%) poor outcome after refraction/pinhole. Causes of poor outcome included ocular co-morbidity (7 patients), surgical complications (4 patients) and post-operative complications (2 patients). The visual recovery rate for the blind patients was 81%. Those with good vision one month after surgery increased from 74 (59.7%) to 87(70.2%) after refraction underscoring the need for routine biometry. Conclusion: The outcome was below the WHO recommendation of at least 90% of operated eyes attaining good best corrected vision after surgery. Recommendation: Patient selection, good management of surgical complications and proper biometry are needed to improve on the outcome of cataract surgery at Garissa Hospital