



**ESTRABISMO, OFTALMOLOGIA PEDIÁTRICA, BAIXA VISÃO,  
ERGOFTALMOLOGIA**

08:30 | 10:45 SALA LIRA

Mesa: Gabriela Varandas, Dalila Coelho, Sónia Campos

09:40

**CL27- CHILDHOOD VISION IMPAIRMENT: FACTS AND FIGURES FROM A REFERENCE HOSPITAL**

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**Purpose:** To investigate causes of paediatric visual impairment (VI) in a hospital population

**Methods:** As part of an observational study to estimate the prevalence and costs of visual impairment in Portugal (PCVIP study), clinical records of all patients attending the ophthalmology department of a tertiary hospital were analysed looking for patients meeting the inclusion criteria. Inclusion criteria were: i) presenting visual acuity in the better eye <5/10 (20/40) and/or ii) visual field less than 20deg. Diagnosis of cases with VI were classified according with ICD9. Results reported here were selected from the total number of patients with VI by filtering cases under the age of 19 years.

**Results:** In 18 weeks 118 cases of individuals under the age of 19yrs were detected, that corresponds to 4% of the total of cases with VI in this hospital. The mean-age was 10.9 (SD=4.7) years and 45% were female. Causes were divided by the five most common anatomical sites affected: 1) lens and refractive error (30%), visual pathways (28%), retina (21%), other including tumours (12%), and optic nerve (9%).

**Conclusion:** Our results show that vision impairment in the paediatric age remains common in reference hospitals. Some causes such as refractive errors leading to amblyopia might be prevented. Most of the remaining causes were not avoidable showing that an efficient support system must be available for children with VI and their families. We hope that this study will contribute for more effective preventing strategies and provision of services for children with VI.

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