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Medication Compliance With Treatment of Glaucoma

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ORIGINAL ARTICLES

• **S1 Patient perspectives in glaucoma care: introduction to the American Journal of Ophthalmology supplement.** Paul P. Lee, MD, JD

• **S3 Evaluation of quality of life in patients with glaucoma.** George Spaeth, MD, John Walt, MBA, and John Keener, PhD

This study examined glaucoma's impact on patients' ability to function and on their quality of life (QOL). Published literature on QOL impacts of glaucoma was reviewed with a focus on the design and evolution of QOL instruments, and correlations of responses with objective measures of progression. Responses to glaucoma-specific instruments correlated best with visual field measurements and objective measures of disease progression. Improved methods for collecting and analyzing QOL data should further our understanding of the impact of glaucoma.

• **S15 Cost-effectiveness of monotherapy treatment of glaucoma and ocular hypertension with the lipid class of medications.** Robert J. Noecker, MD, MBA, and John G. Walt, MBA

The lipid class of intraocular pressure (IOP)-lowering medications is the most widely used medical treatment for glaucoma and ocular hypertension. A retrospective pharmacoeconomic analysis showed that among this class of agents, bimatoprost was superior to latanoprost and travoprost with respect to patient-weighted average IOP reduction and cost-effectiveness.

• **S22 The glaucoma research foundation patient survey: patient understanding of glaucoma and its treatment.** Leon W. Herndon, MD, Thomas M. Brunner, MBA, and Jane Neff Rollins, MSPH

A survey of glaucoma patient subscribers to the Glaucoma Research Foundation newsletter *Gleams* explored patients' perspectives on glaucoma and its treatment. Results from 4310 completed surveys highlight the importance of good patient-physician communication and suggest that most patients rely on their physician for information on glaucoma. Most survey respondents have a good understanding of the importance of IOP lowering in glaucoma and would tolerate temporary red eye to achieve the lowest possible IOP.

• **S28 Measurement of persistence and adherence to regimens of iop-lowering glaucoma medications using pharmacy claims data.** Jacob Wilensky, MD, Richard G. Fiscella, RPh, MPH, Angeline M. Carlson, PhD, Lisa S. Morris, PhD, and John Walt, MBA

This retrospective, population-based study examined persistence and adherence of glaucoma patients to prostaglandin/prostamide IOP-lowering medications based on pharmacy claims in the IMS Health LifeLink database. The mean number of days adherent was significantly greater for bimatoprost as compared with latanoprost. The percentage of patients adherent to therapy with the 3 medications was similar with an average of 76%, suggesting that opportunities remain for improvement of adherence to glaucoma treatment regimens with prostamides and prostaglandins.



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