

**Investigation of causes of anterior uveitis in referral patients to the uveitis clinic of Nikookari hospital from 1382 to 1392**

**Zahedi Abdi S, MD, Alizadeh Ghavidel L, MD.**

**Ophthalmology Department, Nikookari Hospital, Faculty of Medicine, Tabriz University of Medical Sciences**

**Introduction:** Anterior uveitis is the most common form of intraocular inflammatory disease with various prevalence in different countries. This disease results from several etiological entities. Causes of uveitis are known to vary in different populations depending upon the ecological, racial and socioeconomic variations of the population studied. In this study we aim to evaluate the causes of anterior uveitis in patients referred to Uveitis clinic of Nikookari hospital between years 2003 and 2013.

**Methods:** The clinical records of 220 patients with diagnosed anterior uveitis visiting our uveitis clinic between 2003 and 2013 were retrospectively analyzed. Complete examination and laboratory testing if needed, were done on all patients. Demographic findings, etiology and associated systemic disease were recorded.

**Results:** 104 (47.3%) were male and 116 (52.7%) were female. Patients mean age at the disease occurrence was  $37.95 \pm 14.45$  years. Uveitis was unilateral in 94.6% and bilateral in 3.6%, granulomatous in 25% and non-granulomatous in 75% of cases. Etiologies of uveitis were idiopathic in 65.45%, autoimmune in 26.82% and infectious in 7.73%. Common causes were Behcet disease in 13.2%, Herpes virus in 6.4%, multiple sclerosis in 4.1%, rheumatoid arthritis in 3.6% and ankylosing spondylitis in 2.3%. Underlying systemic disease was present in 11.36% of cases. HLA-B27 was positive in 6.4%, HLA-B5 in 1.8% and HLA-B51 in 0.5% of cases.

**Conclusion:** Idiopathic causes are the main type of anterior uveitis and Behcet disease and herpes were the most common causes in the north-west of Iran.

**Keywords:** Uveitis; Etiology; Iran