

Knowledge and Attitude Toward Strabismus in Saudi Arabia

Abdulrahman Mohammed Al Amri* Nouf Omar Saeed Almushayt** Thekra Saeed Alqahtani*** Halimah Hassan Faqih** Nora Khaled Saleh Al Shehri** Bodour Abdullah Ahmed Alqarni** Waad Abdulaziz Ahmad Alzubaidi** Aliaa Ali Abdulrhman Alhazmi** Majdoleen Ali Abdulrahman Alghamdi** Ebtessam Saleh Al-Amer** Ahmad Abdulaziz Alzubaidi**** Raghad Shari Wazi Alshahrani**

ABSTRACT

Background: Strabismus is any ocular misalignment in which the eyeball deviates from its straight visual axis in different directions. Strabismus has a significantly negative psychosocial effect on the individual's life and other adverse effects on the individuals' life. The early management of strabismus is necessary to avoid further complications, and this requires early diagnosis. Having adequate knowledge is, in turn, necessary for early identification, diagnosis, and management.

Aim: To measure the level of knowledge and attitude towards strabismus in the Southern region of Saudi Arabia.

Methods: This study is observational, descriptive, and cross-sectional; it was conducted the individuals living in the Sothern province of Saudi Arabia. The study was conducted using an online-self administrating questionnaire that involved questions to investigate demographic data and the level of knowledge about strabismus. The analysis of the data was done using SPSS program version 21.

Results: There were 703 participants included in this study; the most reported cause of strabismus was hereditary (45.7%), and the major reported treatment options were eyeglasses (49.2%) and eye surgery (42.1%). The main source of information was family or friends (38.4%), followed by social media (30.3%). There were 77.2% had a low level of knowledge, whereas 22.8% had a high level of knowledge. The factors that affected the level of knowledge included gender ($P=0.0001$), age ($P=0.0001$), educational level ($P=0.03$), marital status ($P=0.0001$), and occupation ($P=0.002$).

Conclusion: There was an overall low level of knowledge among participants regarding strabismus, and there was a gap in the knowledge of participants regarding the causes of strabismus.

Keywords: Strabismus, Knowledge, Attitude, Assessment

Bahrain Med Bull 2023; 45 (3): 1539 - 1543

College of Medicine
King Khalid University Abha
Saudi Arabia.
E-mail: profalamri@hotmail.com

**
Medical Intern
College of Medicine
King Khalid University

†
Abha, Saudi Arabia.

Medical Student
College of Medicine
King Khalid University
Abha, Saudi Arabia.

Ophthalmology Resident