

Optometry DistList

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Date: 13 September, 2016

From: Rija Maharjan(rizamaharjan67@gmail.com)

Subject: **Toddlers Are at Highest Risk for Chemical Burns to the Eyes**

Accidents involving chemicals splashed in the eyes were long regarded as a workplace risk. But it turns out that toddlers have the highest risk for this potentially blinding injury at home, according to a study published in JAMA Ophthalmology last month.

Most parents know to keep liquid cleaning products out of children's reach so they do not drink them, but may be unaware that even products like toilet cleaning sprays and alcohol-based hand sanitizers must be kept out of reach.

Chemical eye burns from industrial chemicals and cleaning products are usually considered a problem in industrial settings. That is why the Occupational Safety and Health Administration mandates the use of safety goggles and face shields in certain jobs.

Household detergents are nothing new, of course. But "nobody had ever really looked at chemical ocular burns on a national scale," said Dr. R. Sterling Haring, a former fellow at Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women's Hospital. So "we didn't know the relative volume of kids with these injuries relative to adults."

Costs of chemical eye burns are also underestimated because loss of work, hospitalizations or follow-up visits to eye doctors for continuing care are not accounted for. A range of common products can sear eyes, if left within the reach of babies. But parents may not appreciate the full range of products that should be kept in a high cabinet locked up.

Patients fare differently after chemical eye burns. Sometimes, irritation lasts a few days. More severe burns can lead to decreased visual sharpness, or even blindness.

For the complete article, please visit:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/09/13/health/toddlers-are-at-highest-risk-for-chemical-burns-to-the-eyes.html? r=0>

Date: 25 September, 2016

From: Chandan Shettigar (chandanshettigar@gmail.com)

Subject: **Breast Milk 'Cure' for Sore Eyes Ruins Infant's Cornea**

When Seema's week-old son developed a red spot in his right eye, she followed her family elders' advice: she squeezed out a few drops of her breast milk into his eye. Within 24 hours, Seema and her husband Sunil watched in horror as their newborn's eye gathered pus and swelled up dangerously.

The 21-day-old underwent a cornea transplant as the breast milk worsened the earlier infection, created ulcers on the cornea and even perforated it.

In a country where grandmother's 'nuskas' are revered, the family was only following the mob. "It is a common practice to put goat's milk, madar plant's juice or urine in the eye, but it's medically incorrect," said Dr Kavita Rao who operated on the child.

"How can anything that is not sterile be put in an eye?," asked the cornea specialist from Aditya Jyot Hospital, Wadala. The child only needed some antibiotic drops for a few days to clear any conjunctivitis or bacterial growth.

The child's vision isn't likely to be repaired. The operation mainly served to remove the infected parts and put a cornea to regain the eye's structure. "This cornea may turn white too, but we should be able to do a vision correction corneal transplant within a few months," Dr Rao added.

For the complete article, please visit: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/health-fitness/health-news/Breast-milk-cure-for-sore-eyes-ruins-infants-cornea/articleshow/54506276.cms>

Date: 23 September, 2016

From: Sandhya Shekar (sandhya.shekar@indiavisioninstitute.org)

Subject: **New Treatments for Glaucoma in the Works**

Within a decade or so, glaucoma patients may be able say goodbye to eye drops and have their pick of treatments, making a visit to the clinic akin to a shopping experience. Singapore is taking part in a 20-country clinical trial for a medicine that has to be administered every four to six months, instead of daily.

Among a host of ongoing trials for similar products, this medicine, formulated by global pharmaceutical company Allergan, is at an advanced stage of development and could be sold in the market in three years.

The procedure involves an injection into the inner eye, in the region between the iris and the cornea called the anterior chamber. A pellet of a slow-release drug is injected via a needle that is less than 1mm in diameter. This drug implant will then sit at the bottom of the chamber for the next four months. The drug is biodegradable and will not leave any residue.

Two other glaucoma treatments making progress in Singapore involve an injection into the tear duct, which is effective for up to two months, and the sub-conjunctival — the outer, glassy part of the eye — which is effective for up to six months.

Adjunct Associate Professor Shamira Perera, senior consultant at SNEC's glaucoma department, said: "When you apply eye drops, only 5 per cent is being used inside the eye ... But if you are putting the medication directly inside the eye, that's the best, and you can put less of it (and the medicine will be as effective)."

For the complete article, please visit: <http://www.todayonline.com/singapore/new-treatments-glaucoma-works>

Date: 28 September, 2016

From: Rashmi Reddy (rashmireddy1990@gmail.com)

Subject: **Head-Mounted Display Did Not Have Significant Clinical Effect on Normal Eyes**

Volunteers who watched video using a head-mounted display for 30 minutes did not experience significant clinical effects in their normal adolescent eyes, according to a study.

The study, completed at Korea University College of Medicine in Seoul, included 60 volunteers between 13 and 18 years of age who watched either a three-dimensional movie or a virtual reality application using the head-mounted display. Researchers measured refractive error before viewing, immediately after the start of viewing and repeatedly every 10 minutes after viewing when a myopic shift greater than 0.15 D was observed.

After 30 minutes of viewing in the head-mounted display, spherical equivalent, near point of accommodation and stereoacuity did not change significantly in any of the subjects' eyes.

Researchers noted transient myopic shifts of 17.2% to 30% in both the virtual reality and three-dimensional movie cohorts; the volunteers fully recovered within 40 minutes.

An esophoric shift was observed immediately after watching the head-mounted display (0.6 ΔD 1.5 D to 0.2 ΔD 1.5 D), but it was not significant.

“There were no significant clinical effects on normal adolescent eyes with 30 minutes of watching the head-mounted display. Although transient changes in refractive error and esodeviation in a few participants after watching the head-mounted display were found, the changes were not significant,” the study authors wrote. – *By Robert Linnehan*

For the complete article, please visit: <http://www.healio.com/ophthalmology/pediatrics-strabismus/news/online/%7Bd6b7b488-44b4-40a7-b92c-729ca68dbab6%7D/head-mounted-display-did-not-have-significant-clinical-effect-on-normal-eyes>

Date: 12 September, 2016
From: Lakshmi Shinde (lak.shinde@gmail.com)
Subject: **OCI World Sight Day Walkathon**

On the occasion of World Sight Day, the Optometry Council of India (OCI) along with IOF and ASCO is conducting an eye care awareness walkathon in three metros: Mumbai, Chennai and Delhi. This is supported by Alcon, Bausch & Lomb and Coopervision contact lens industries. OCI would like to thank them for their support. The walkathon will be flagged off by eminent optometry personalities in these three cities.

The aim of this walkathon is to increase eye care awareness among the general public and to spread the message that a comprehensive eye examination by an optometrist once a year is required for good eye health. The details of the walkathon are as follows:

Chennai:
Location: Marina Beach 2 km
Date: 16th October 2016
Local Partner: OATN association
Flagged off by: Mr. Rajni Turakhia
Contact person: Mr Singaravelu +919884976860

Mumbai:
Location: Mitibhai college to Lotus college: 2km
Date: 15th October 2016
Local partner: Lotus college
Flagged off by: Ms. Kunda Ganatra
Contact Person: Ms Prema Chande +9198276867945 / +918879838681

Delhi:
Location: Gurgaon HUDA metro station to MG road
Date: 13th/15th October 2016 depending on police permission
Local Partner: Amity University and IOF
Flagged off by: Mr. Vipin Buckshey
Contact Person: Ms Monica Chaudhry +919868762726

OCI will provide the following:

Banners: 7-10

Water

Refreshments

T-shirts with the message "Proud to be an optometrist" in front along with OCI, IOF and ASCO logos. The back will display the message "Check Yearly, See clearly" along with the industry sponsors' logo.

OCI requests all our members who are present in the respective cities, to join the walkathon along with their friends and colleagues, and make it a huge success.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.optometrycouncilofindia.org/>

Date: 29 September, 2016

From: B.V. Tejah (tejahb@iapb.org)

Subject: **IAPB's 10th General Assembly: One month to go**

The International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), with our local partner the Brien Holden Vision Institute, is delighted to welcome all eye care professionals to Durban, South Africa in October 2016.

IAPB's 10th General Assembly (10GA) is the premier global event discussing public health issues related to blindness and visual impairment. Catering to every eye health professional – ophthalmologists, optometrists, other eye health professionals, development and public health experts, key opinion leaders, procurement specialists, CEOs, eye care equipment manufacturers – 10GA will be the biggest event in the eye health calendar in 2016. With the theme "Stronger Together", IAPB aims to underscore the key value it delivers to the eye care sector – building partnerships and ensuring that the entire sector speaks in one voice.

Beginning with a series of pre-meetings, the last four days of October 2016 will witness a confluence of nearly 1200 eye care professionals from around the world in Durban. The Opening Ceremony is scheduled to be headlined by a long-term supporter of eye care on the continent, 'Her Excellency Dr Ellen Johnson Sirleaf', the President of Liberia and Nobel laureate, along with other dignitaries from the South African government.

Over three days of symposia, courses and plenaries, 10GA will have over 200 renowned speakers covering every aspect of eye care and public policy. Breakfast sessions in the morning, 'Pavilion' sessions during the breaks and social events in the evening will ensure that 10GA delivers value and is a useful networking opportunity for all our delegates. IAPB General Assemblies are always great opportunities to foster ideas, swap success stories and find solutions.

IAPB would like to thank all our exhibitors and supporters who are helping us bring this event to you. The 10GA would not have been possible without the generous support of our Programme Partners: the Brien Holden Vision Institute, CBM, Mectizan Donation Program and Orbis. IAPB would also like to thank our 10GA 'Eye Health Investors': Bayer, Helen

Keller International, the International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO), Lion Clubs International Foundation, L'OCCITANE Foundation, Seeing is Believing/Standard Chartered Bank, Seva and Vision Impact Institute.

For more information, please visit: <http://10ga.iapb.org>

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