Abstract Information

Abstract Title: Comparative Cross-Sectional Study: IOP in Somalis. This is a contribution to Anne Coleman's symposium on non-RCT studies.

Purpose: Determine if IOPs in normal East-African Somalis are different from Caucasians.

Design: Comparative retrospective cross-sectional study

Participants: Patients presenting for routine eye care at an inner city eye clinic.

Main Outcome Measures: Intraocular pressure

Methods: This presentation will review a retrospective study of intraocular pressure measurements on emigrated Somali patients 30 years of age or greater in Seattle, and published in the Journal of Glaucoma 2003;12:365-69. Caucasian patients matched for age and gender seen during the same time period, and for the same reason, routine eye examinations, served as a comparison group. The statistical analysis method was an independent sample two-tailed t test. As an example of a comparative cross-sectional study, it will serve to stimulate discussion of the inherent strengths and weaknesses of such studies. In addition, specific criticisms of the study design utilized in the Seattle study will be solicited.

Results: Audience critique of study design is encouraged.

Conclusion: Dependent on discussion.