

Amsler grid eye test as a screening tool for maculopathy in general practice

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Aims and purpose: maculopathy is a frequent disease among the elderly people. An early diagnosis is important as new treatment methods are introduced. The Amsler grid eye test is a simple and economic test for maculopathy. In this study we aimed at investigating the usefulness of the amsler grid as a screening test in general medicine.

Design and methods: a quantitative prospective study. Every patient over 40 years consulting a general medicine practice within 5 weeks is tested by the Amsler grid for maculopathy. If the test results positive the patient is sent to an ophthalmologist to confirm the maculopathy by standard ophthalmoscopy.

Results: we evaluate the Amsler test as a diagnostic method to detect maculopathy, – taking into account the possibility of including this method as a first-line tool in general medicine.