Blood Pressure in Subconjunctival Hemorrhage

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I read with interest the article by Mimura et al. [1]. The authors defined hypertension as treatment with antihypertensive drugs or a blood pressure more than 140/90 mm Hg. While uncontrolled hypertension can explain such bleeding, the authors cannot conclude that a patient controlling blood pressure adequately with antihypertensive drugs would have hypertension as a cause of subconjunctival hemorrhage. Perhaps the percentages of subconjunctival bleeding from hypertension would change if the appropriate definition of hypertension were applied.

Reference

Reply
Tatsuya Mimura
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We appreciate the comments expressed by Dr. Weekitt Kittisupamongkol regarding our paper ‘Recent Causes of Subconjunctival Hemorrhage’ published in the September 2009 issue [1].

He suggested that a patient controlling blood pressure adequately with antihypertensive drugs would not have hypertension as a cause of subconjunctival hemorrhage. The percentages of subconjunctival bleeding from hypertension may slightly change if the other definition of hypertension is applied as he suggested. However, our definition has generally been used to diagnose hypertension. Even if hypertension is controlled with drugs, patients with hypertension are more likely to have microvascular damage (such as subconjunctival hemorrhage) than healthy subjects. In this study, we examined the basal disease related with subconjunctival hemorrhage; therefore, we cannot exclude the patients treated with antihypertensive drugs from patients with hypertension.

We thank Dr. Weekitt Kittisupamongkol for the important comments. We would like to compare the rate of subconjunctival hemorrhage between essential hypertensive patients with and without antihypertensive drugs, and this will be the subject of a separate manuscript.

Reference

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