

Response to comments on: Causes of delayed presentation of pediatric cataract: A questionnaire-based prospective study at a tertiary eye care center in central rural India

Dear Editor,

We thank Dr Gogate for his interest in our paper and appreciate him for raising some very pertinent questions^[1] related to our study.

In our study, we noted that of 156 patients, 127 (81%) caregivers went to the primary health care providers for the initial diagnosis, and only 18.5% underwent surgery in <2 months of diagnosis. We found that the major cause of delay was cost.^[2] However, we do acknowledge that the advice given by the primary health care providers was not recorded in our study.

We also agree that there is a need for supporting pediatric eye surgeries; in our study, out of 156 patients, approximately 42 (27%) patients (21 bilateral cataract and 21 unilateral cataract) were operated free of cost, and in another 68 (43%, 49 bilateral cataract and 19 unilateral cataract), the surgery was done at a highly subsidized rate. This we could achieve by cross subsidy and support from international NGOs.

Only 65% of our patients had completed 6 months follow-up, and hence, we reported outcome analysis at 1 month. In these eyes, we noted a trend towards increasing visual acuity with longer duration of follow-up.

We thank Dr Parikshit once again for their comments and for providing more insight on this subject.

Financial support and sponsorship

Nil.

Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest.

Pradhnya Sen, Namrata Gupta¹, Amit Mohan, Chintan Shah, Alok Sen², Elesh Jain

Consultant and Head of Department, Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus, Sadguru Netra Chikitsalaya and Post Graduate

Institute of Ophthalmology, Jankikund, ¹Resident, Sadguru Netra Chikitsalaya and Post Graduate Institute of Ophthalmology, Jankikund, ²Consultant, Vitreoretina and Uvea, Sadguru Netra Chikitsalaya and Post Graduate Institute of Ophthalmology, Jankikund, Chitrakoot, Madhya Pradesh, India

Correspondence to: Dr. Pradhnya Sen, Consultant and Head of Department, Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus, Sadguru netra Chikitsalaya and Post Graduate Institute of Ophthalmology, Jankikund, Chitrakoot, Madhya Pradesh, India.
E-mail: drpradhnyasen@rediffmail.com

References

1. Gogate PM, Sil AK. Comments on: Causes of delayed presentation of pediatric cataract: A questionnaire-based prospective study at a tertiary eye care centre in central rural India. *Indian J Ophthalmol* 2021;69:173-4.
2. Sen P, Gupta N, Mohan A, Shah C, Sen A, Jain E. Causes of delayed presentation of pediatric cataract: A questionnaire-based prospective study at a tertiary eye care center in central rural India. *Indian J Ophthalmol* 2020;68:603-7.

This is an open access journal, and articles are distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 License, which allows others to remix, tweak, and build upon the work non-commercially, as long as appropriate credit is given and the new creations are licensed under the identical terms.

Access this article online	
Quick Response Code:	Website: www.ijo.in
	DOI: 10.4103/ijo.IJO_1859_20

Cite this article as: Sen P, Gupta N, Mohan A, Shah C, Sen A, Jain E. Response to comments on: Causes of delayed presentation of pediatric cataract: A questionnaire-based prospective study at a tertiary eye care center in central rural India. *Indian J Ophthalmol* 2021;69:174.

© 2020 Indian Journal of Ophthalmology | Published by Wolters Kluwer - Medknow