

## IS IT GLAUCOMA? OR SOMETHING ELSE?

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### PURPOSE:

This study aims to analyze the demographic and clinical characteristics of the patients with an enlargement of optic disc cupping referred to a neuro-ophthalmology evaluation from the glaucoma department.

### METHODS:

This is a retrospective study. We obtained a list of all the patients examined in both neuro-ophthalmology and glaucoma visits in our tertiary center, between 2019 and 2021, including the ones evaluated on a “virtual” glaucoma consult (low risk patients referred from other departments who were submitted to a standardized diagnostic exam panel).

### RESULTS:

From an initial 72 patients list, 37 were referred from the glaucoma department to a neuro-ophthalmology consult and were included in the study, of which 15 (40,5%) were females, with a mean age of  $70 \pm 16$  years. From those 37 patients, 13 (35,1%) were referred from the “virtual” glaucoma consult and 24 (64,9%) from the standard “face to face” visit. The presence of a non-glaucomatous optic neuropathy was corroborated in 29 (78,4%) of those patients, being non-arteritic anterior ischemic optic neuropathy (AION) the most common diagnosis  $n=15$  (51,7%), followed by arteritic AION  $n=7$  (24,1%), compressive AION  $n=2$  (6,9%), cerebral ischemic stroke  $n=2$  (6,9%), and infiltrative AION, genetic AION, retinal vein occlusion with 1 case each (3,4%).

### CONCLUSIONS:

Optic disc cupping can be associated with non-glaucomatous disease and may warrant neuro-ophthalmological evaluation, mainly when the progression of the disease “glaucoma” does not correspond to what is expected.

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