

Contact lens practitioners practices in relation to patient compliance at Lions Sight First Eye Hospital, Kenya

Abstract.

Background: Contact lens practitioners (CLPs) play a vital role in the fitting of contact lenses (CL) and thus have a great influence on patient compliance. Studies have often focused on investigating levels of compliance and thus limited knowledge of CLP practices. Thus, this study aimed to investigate CLP practices on CL wear and care. Methods: The study employed a cross-sectional research design. Purposive sampling technique was used to select consenting CLPs working Lions Sight First Eye Hospital (LSFEH). A self-administered questionnaire, containing questions on current Practices, was used to collect information. Once ethical clearance from MMUST IERC, NACOSTI and permission LSFEH were obtained data collection process began. A total of fifteen (15) CLP participated in the study. Results: The mean age of the practitioners was 31 ± 3.87 . Most (67%) of the CLPs had worked for between 5 to 10 years. A majority (73%) of the practitioners had bachelor's degree. Most (87%) of them specialized in soft lenses. Majority of the CLP use of written appointment card, 53% of the CLP use of manufacturer guidelines and oral communication is the most used form of training patients as said by 60% of the CLP. Conclusion: CLPs at LSFEH had good wear and care practices on patient instruction. For successful CL wear, patients need to follow instructions given by CLPs on CL wear and care. It is, therefore, necessary for CLPs to practice according to the recommended guidelines to avoid patient non-compliance.

Authors:

Sheilah Nangena, Mustafa Barasa.