

EXAMINATION OF NAILFOLD BED IN NORMAL TENSION GLAUCOMA PATIENTS BY VIDEOCAPILLAROSCOPY

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Purpose: The purpose of this study was assessment of nailfold capillaries in normal tension glaucoma (NTG) in which pathogenesis the disturbance in the optic nerve capillary autoregulation is suggested. **Methods:** The study included 61 normal-tension glaucoma (NTG) patients and 30 age-matched healthy volunteers. Capillaroscopic examination of the nailfold capillaries of II to V fingers of both hands was performed by means of a videocapillaroscope. **Results:** 44 (72.13%) patients suffered from cold extremities (cold hands or feet). In 30 patients (49,14% of the studied group) the results of the nailfold capillaroscopy was outside the normal limits. 9,9% (6 patients) needed further diagnostics toward the connective tissue diseases with secondary Raynaud phenomenon. The patients with NTG presented following nailfold capillaries: coiled (13%), megacapillaries or dilatated capillaries (49,2 %), ramified/ bushy (27,9%). In contrast to the healthy controls, the patients with NTG presented following nailfold capillaries: coiled (17,4%), megacapillaries or dilatated capillaries (21,7%), ramified/ bushy (17,4%). **Conclusions:** Capillaroscopy can be a useful accessory examination especially in NTG patients with vasospastic disorders. Some of the patients have capillaroscopic changes suggestive of structural endothelial dysfunction. **Financial Disclosure:** None.