PRE-PERIMETRIC GLAUCOMA: DON'T TREAT
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Sometimes careful clinical examinations seem to show that a patient has glaucoma, despite the fact that the results of proper visual field testing are entirely normal. Should such patients be treated? The answer is almost always no, and here are some reasons why:

1. Pre-perimetric glaucoma is a difficult diagnosis and is rather likely to be erroneous. Normal eyes with large discs are, e.g., often erroneously judged to be glaucomatous. The risk for such faulty classification is even larger in patients with suspect glaucoma, e.g. patient with elevated IOP or a positive family history of glaucoma.

2. The goal of glaucoma treatment is to prevent loss of Quality of Life. QoL is not reduced until considerable field loss has been encountered. Most patients with pre-perimetric glaucoma will never suffer any loss of QoL even if they develop visual field damage.

3. Receiving a diagnosis of glaucoma reduces a patient's QoL.