

European Society of Ophthalmology



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Name: Erlend Christoffer Sommer Landsend
European Leadership Development Program Class of 2017-2019
Project Abstract

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*Please include the headings if appropriate: **Title, Purpose, Methods, Results and Conclusion***

Title of Project: “Quantitative Changes in Screening for Retinopathy of Prematurity in a Norwegian Hospital”

Background: In 2012, The Norwegian Ophthalmological Society published a report regarding capacity, production and future challenges in ophthalmology. Changes in number of ophthalmological consultations in Norway from year 2008 to 2009 were documented. In hospitals, examinations of children under age 10 years (with all kind of ophthalmological diagnoses) increased by 12% in this period. However, no evaluation of specific diagnoses was undertaken in these children.

Purpose: To retrospectively evaluate total number of retinal examinations performed in infants screened for retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) in a hospital unit in Oslo, Norway.

Methods: Babies with birth weight ≤ 1500 g and/or gestational age < 32 weeks, and other babies considered at risk of developing ROP, were examined. All infants were hospitalized at time of examination, and screened following internal recommendations. Follow-up screening after hospitalization was performed in a polyclinic, and not included in the current survey.

Results: Data from year 2015–2018 was available. Total number of examinations carried out in all babies included in ROP screening was 251 in 2015, 360 in 2016, 355 in 2017, and 354 in 2018. The increase in number of examinations from 2015 to 2016 was 43%.

Conclusion: In one hospital unit in Oslo, number of retinal examinations for ROP increased considerably from 2015 to 2016. The number remained relatively stable the following three years (2016–2018). Quantity of ROP examinations is probably influenced by several factors, as changes in the screening population and procedure. Further investigations are required to explore the variability in our case.