



**SWAMI VIVEKANANDA UNIVERSITY
ALLIED AND HEALTH SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF OPTOMETRY**

CELEBRATING GLAUCOMA WEEK

Webinar on

"UNDERSTANDING GLAUCOMA: RISKS, DIAGNOSIS, AND TREATMENT"

17th March 2026

At 7:00pm



**SPEAKER : DR. PRASHANT P SHRIVASTAVA
M.B.B.S, M.S, F.M.R.F (SANKARA NETHRALAYA)
CATARACT , GLAUCOMA , LASIK AND REFRACTIVE SURGEON
DIRECTOR AND CONSULTANT,
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Webinar Report Understanding Glaucoma: Risks, Diagnosis, and Treatment Organized by

Department of Optometry
School of Allied Health Sciences
Swami Vivekananda University

1. Introduction

Glaucoma is one of the leading causes of irreversible blindness worldwide. It is often referred to as the “silent thief of sight” because it progresses gradually without noticeable symptoms in its early stages. The condition primarily affects the optic nerve and, if left untreated, leads to permanent vision loss.

In order to create awareness and promote early detection, the Department of Optometry, Swami Vivekananda University, organized a webinar during Glaucoma Week 2026. The objective of this event was to educate students and future eye care professionals about the importance of timely diagnosis, risk factors, and modern treatment approaches for glaucoma.

2. Objective of the Webinar

The webinar was conducted with the following objectives:

- To enhance awareness about glaucoma among students
- To understand the major risk factors associated with glaucoma
- To explain diagnostic techniques used in clinical practice
- To discuss current and advanced treatment options
- To emphasize the role of optometrists in early detection and management

3. Event Details

Event Title: Celebrating Glaucoma Week

Webinar Topic: Understanding Glaucoma: Risks, Diagnosis, and Treatment

Date: 17th March 2026

Time: 7:00 PM

Organized by: Department of Optometry, Swami Vivekananda University

4. Resource Person

The session was delivered by Dr. Prashant P. Shrivastava, a highly experienced ophthalmologist and surgeon.

Qualifications & Expertise:

M.B.B.S., M.S., F.M.R.F (Sankara Nethralaya)

Specialist in Cataract, Glaucoma, LASIK, and Refractive Surgery

Director and Consultant at Pushpanjali Eye Care

Dr. Shrivastava brought extensive clinical experience and provided practical insights into real-world glaucoma management.

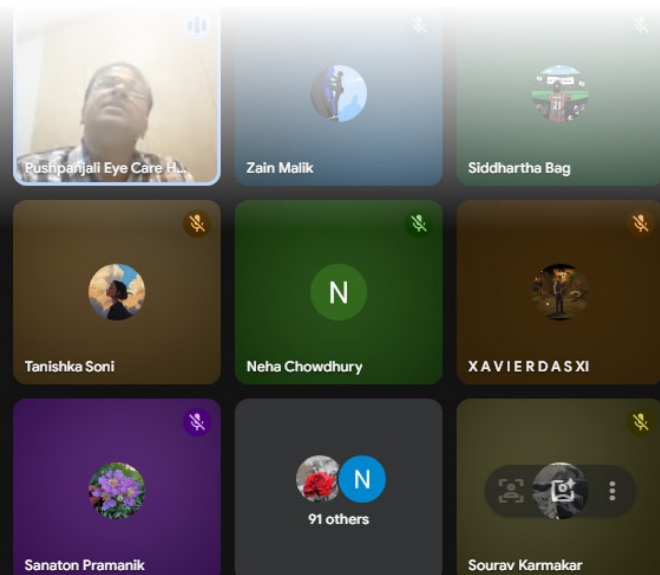
5. Overview of Glaucoma

Glaucoma is a group of eye disorders characterized by progressive damage to the optic nerve, often associated with increased intraocular pressure (IOP). It can lead to gradual vision loss, starting with peripheral vision and eventually affecting central vision.

The burden of glaucoma

- Glaucoma is responsible for blindness in 1.2 million people and accounts for 5.5% of total blindness, putting it as leading causes of irreversible blindness in India.
- The blindness associated with glaucoma is multifactorial.
- A majority of them either remain undiagnosed or are diagnosed at an advanced stage.
- The critical challenges in glaucoma management in India are low levels of awareness, undetected and undiagnosed cases, poor access to glaucoma diagnostic and therapeutic services, and issues related to compliance with treatment.

National blindness and visual impairment survey India 2015-2019: A summary report. [Last accessed on 2022 Apr 18]. Available from: <http://ncpbvis.gov.in/writereaddata/mainlinkfile/file341.pdf>



Types of Glaucoma:

Primary Open-Angle Glaucoma (POAG) – Most common, slow progression

Angle-Closure Glaucoma – Sudden onset, medical emergency

Congenital Glaucoma – Present at birth

Secondary Glaucoma – Caused by injury, disease, or medication

6. Risk Factors of Glaucoma

Dr. Shrivastava emphasized that glaucoma can affect anyone, but certain individuals are at higher risk:

Age above 40 years

Family history of glaucoma

Elevated intraocular pressure

Diabetes and hypertension

Long-term steroid use

High myopia (nearsightedness)

Eye injuries or trauma

Understanding these risk factors is crucial for early screening and prevention.

7. Diagnosis of Glaucoma

Early detection is the key to preventing vision loss. The webinar covered several diagnostic techniques used in clinical practice:

Common Diagnostic Methods:

Tonometry: Measures intraocular pressure

Ophthalmoscopy: Examines optic nerve damage

Perimetry (Visual Field Test): Detects vision loss patterns

Gonioscopy: Evaluates drainage angle of the eye

OCT (Optical Coherence Tomography): Provides detailed imaging of optic nerve

Dr. Shrivastava highlighted that relying on a single test is not sufficient; a combination of tests is essential for accurate diagnosis.

8. Role of Optometrists

The webinar strongly emphasized the role of optometrists as primary eye care providers.

Key Responsibilities:

Early screening and detection

Patient education and awareness

Referral to ophthalmologists when necessary

Monitoring disease progression

Ensuring treatment compliance

Optometrists act as the first line of defense in preventing glaucoma-related blindness.

9. Key Takeaways from the Webinar

Glaucoma is irreversible but preventable with early detection

Regular eye check-ups are essential, especially for high-risk individuals

Awareness is the most powerful tool in reducing blindness

Multidisciplinary approach improves patient outcomes

Optometrists play a critical role in community eye care

10. Acknowledgement

The Department of Optometry, Swami Vivekananda University, extends its sincere gratitude to Dr. Prashant P. Shrivastava for delivering an insightful session. Appreciation is also extended to all participants for their active involvement and enthusiasm.

We are thankful to Dr. Nandan Gupta sir, Chancellor, Swami Vivekananda University for his immense support; Prof. (Dr.) Subrata Kumar Dey sir, Vice Chancellor, Swami Vivekananda University for making us reach new heights; Prof. (Dr.) Pinak Pani Nath Sir, Registrar, Swami Vivekananda University for guiding us and Mr. Saurabh Adhikari sir, Chief Operating Officer, Swami Vivekananda University being with us since the beginning.

Image Gallery

