



## Encyclopedia of Glaucoma

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### Message from the Collection Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Glaucoma is the leading cause of blindness in the world. The recent meta-analysis predicts the number of patients affected with glaucoma to be around 110 million worldwide.

Glaucoma is an optic neuropathy characterized by the selective death of retinal ganglion cells (RGCs) and a progressive loss of vision. The elevation in intraocular pressure (IOP) is one of the important risk factors for developing glaucoma.

Treatment of glaucoma to date aims at surgically or medically reducing the elevated IOP, which has been identified by various studies as the sole critical factor for the pathogenesis of glaucoma. Various contributions from basic sciences (biochemistry, molecular biology, cell biology, molecular genetic) have added tremendous knowledge to the glaucoma field, so much so that the mysteries of glaucoma have begun to unravel. This wealth of knowledge has propelled the field to a point that the future of effectively treating or controlling the disease seems to be nearly in reach.

