



COLLABORATIVE NORMAL TENSION GLAUCOMA STUDY

Douglas R. Anderson, M.D., Professor of Ophthalmology and Douglas R. Anderson Chair in Ophthalmology

P.O. Box 016880, 900 NW 17 Street, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, University of Miami School of Medicine, Miami, Florida, 33101-6880, USA

on behalf of

THE COLLABORATIVE NORMAL TENSION GLAUCOMA STUDY GROUP

This study was funded by the Glaucoma Research Foundation, San Francisco, California, with special grants from the Oxnard Foundation and the Edward J. Daly Foundation, San Francisco, California.

Even though the intraocular pressure is in the normal range in cases of normal tension glaucoma, the level of pressure influences the course of the disease as evidenced by a slower rate of incident visual field loss in cases with 30% or more lowering of the intraocular pressure. The rate of progression without treatment is highly variable, but often slow enough that half of the patients had no progression in 5 years. Risk factors that predict a faster rate include female gender, having migraine headaches, and the presence of disc hemorrhages. Analysis suggests that some cases may have greater benefit from lowering of the intraocular pressure than others, but subgroup analysis of data from this study can only hint at some of the factors that with further research might be proved to be of importance.

Updated: March 11, 2008 12:55 PM AST