Survey of health-related quality of life and functional vision in children and adolescents with childhood glaucoma and aphakia/pseudophakia following cataract surgery.

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Introduction:
Impaired vision, repeated surgical interventions, topical eye medications and frequent hospital appointments can affect the daily life of children with eye conditions, and their families. This is especially true for children with conditions that are chronic in nature without cure, e.g. childhood glaucoma, and those that require chronic follow up e.g. following congenital cataract surgery.

Aim:
Our aim is to investigate the affect of these eye conditions on children's general and vision-related Quality of Life (QoL) and their Functional Vision (FV).

Methods:
- Children aged 2-16 years old and their parents or carers attending Paediatric Glaucoma or Cataract clinics at Moorfields Eye Hospital were approached (Table 1, Figure 1).
- Children aged 8-16 years and their families were enrolled in a survey on the impact of visual impairment on the child's quality of life and functional vision (Table 2).

Results:
- To date 137 children and their families have been enrolled, mean age 8.8 years, standard deviation (SD) 4.4 years (table 2).
- Table 2. Clinical Characteristics of participants

Conclusion:
- Children with aphakia/pseudophakia following cataract surgery or childhood Glaucoma have reduced Visual Acuity and reduced Functional Vision compared to healthy peers.
- General health-related QoL is severely affected, with PedsQL scores comparable to those with children with Acute Leukaemia.
- Children may be less aware or less concerned of their condition than their parents.
- Parents tend to express less concern about their child's health and their child's QoL than children themselves.

References:

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Figure 1. Diagnosis of participants in this study. Overall 70% of participants had a bilateral condition; 30% had a unilateral condition.

Table 1. Tools completed by age group.