In a patient with pigment dispersion syndrome, the most significant ocular risk factor for conversion to glaucoma is an IOP above 21mmHg on presentation.

The Science behind the Tip

Pigment dispersion syndrome tends to occur in young myopic white men. There are genetic factors that underly the risk for conversion from pigment dispersion to glaucoma\(^1\). Up to 10% develop glaucoma at 5 years and 15% at 15 years\(^2\). In some individuals it may take more than 20 years\(^3\).

Men tend to develop glaucoma at an earlier age than women and are more likely to require more aggressive treatment\(^4\). The most significant ocular factor for conversion to glaucoma is an IOP above 21mmHg on presentation\(^2\). Age, refractive error, family history, degree of trabecular hyperpigmentation and cup: disc ratio are not predictors of who will develop glaucoma\(^2\).

References


Contributor: John F Salmon MD - Oxford