

SAMPLE FORMAT FOR RESOLUTION

Glaucoma Screening

The Wisconsin Public Health Association

Knowing that glaucoma is a major cause of blindness in the United States, today, affecting more than one million individuals, (1), (2) and

Noting that certain segments of the population are at increased risk for development of glaucoma, e.g., those persons with a family history of glaucoma; (3) diabetes, abnormal ophthalmoscopic examinations; (2) advancing age and

Realizing that if raised intra-ocular pressure is detected and decreased either pharmacologically or surgically, the pathophysiological progression to functional blindness can be halted; (1),(2), and

Understanding that glaucoma screening may be performed by a variety of qualified primary health care providers who are knowledgeable of proper procedure and techniques^{1,2}; therefore

1. Encourages a greater awareness of the need for glaucoma screening among the public and health providers and supports public health education about glaucoma screening. All glaucoma screening programs should be identified with an appropriate referral source for follow-up and treatment;
2. Encourage continuing research to improve current methods of glaucoma screening.

References:

1. Lichter P.R.: Glaucoma Screening Post Grad Med
2. Spaeth G.L. (ed): Early Primary Open-Angle Glaucoma: Diagnosis and management. Boston, Little, Brown & Company, International Ophthalmology Clinics, Spring, 1979, vol. 19, No. 1.
3. Armaly M.F.: On the distribution of applanation pressures 1: statistical features and the effect of age, sex, and family history of glaucoma. Arch. Ophthalmology 73:11, 1965

Fiscal and Public Health Impact

WPHA should send letters to 102 public health agencies in Wisconsin at a cost of \$.50 per letter.

Glaucoma affects are estimated at 22,500 persons in Wisconsin of which an estimated 7,000 are not aware of their problem. An effective screening program could reach these people.