

Comparison of Sociodemographic Features Between Behçet Uveitis and Other Noninfectious Uveitides

F. Nilüfer Yalçındağ¹, Pınar Özdağ², Yılmaz Özyazgan³, Figen Batioğlu¹, İlknur Tuğal-Tutkun⁴,

On behalf of the BUST Study Group

¹Department of Ophthalmology, Ankara University, Faculty of Medicine, Ankara, Turkey.

²Ulucanlar Eye Research Hospital, Ankara

³Department of Ophthalmology, Istanbul University, Cerrahpasa Faculty of Medicine, Istanbul

⁴Department of Ophthalmology, Istanbul University, Istanbul Faculty of Medicine, Istanbul

Financial interests: None

Purpose: To analyze and compare sociodemographic features between Behçet uveitis and other noninfectious uveitides.

Methods: This study was conducted by the Uveitis and Behçet disease Unit of the Turkish Society of Ophthalmology. A multicenter, observational, national registry of uveitis (BUST Study) was performed to determine the demographic and clinical profile of patients with uveitis seen at secondary and tertiary care centers in Turkey. The data of adults with noninfectious uveitis in the nationwide uveitis database were analyzed and sociodemographic features of patients with and without Behçet disease were compared.

Results: This study included data of 3363 patients from 33 centers. The mean age at presentation was 38.7 ± 13.3 (17–87) years. The mean age was 34.3 ± 10.5 years in Behçet uveitis group and 41.1 ± 14.0 years in other noninfectious uveitis group ($p < 0.001$). A male predominance was seen in Behçet uveitis group (67.7% vs 32.3%) while female patients had the majority in other noninfectious uveitis group (54.4% vs 45.6%) ($p < 0.001$).

Regarding educational status, low educational status rate was higher in Behçet uveitis group than other noninfectious uveitis group (52.1% vs 45.5% for primary school graduates) ($p < 0.001$), (29.0% vs 25.8% for high school graduates) ($p < 0.001$).

Having a low-income job or being currently unemployed, indicators of poor income, were more frequent in the Behçet uveitis group than in the other noninfectious uveitis group (31.9% vs 23.2%) ($p < 0.001$).

When we compare places where patients live, the rate of patients who live in cities with low gross national product was 37.4% in the Behçet uveitis group and 31.2% in the other noninfectious uveitis group ($p < 0.001$).

Conclusions: Patients with Behçet disease had a low educational status and a poor socioeconomic status in comparison to the patients with other noninfectious uveitis entities.

	Other noninfectious uveitis group		Behçet uveitis group		Total		p value
	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Educational status N=3307							<0.001
• Primary school	985	45.5	594	52.1	1579	47.7	
• High school	558	25.8	331	29.0	889	26.9	
• University	468	21.6	171	15.0	639	19.3	
• Uneducated	155	7.2	45	3.9	200	6.0	
Occupation N=3327							<0.001
• Housewife	667	30.6	225	19.5	892	26.8	
• Low income job or currently unemployed	505	23.2	368	31.9	873	26.2	
• Self-employment	409	18.8	353	30.6	762	22.9	
• Civil servant	267	12.3	99	8.6	366	11.0	
• Retired	190	8.7	45	3.9	235	7.1	
• Student	137	6.3	62	5.4	199	6.0	
Cities where patients live N=3343							<0.001
• Low gross national product	682	31.2	433	37.4	1115	33.4	
• High gross national product	1504	68.8	724	62.6	2228	66.6	