

Supplement Table 1: Prevalence of blindness according to age group (PVA < 3/60)

Age Group	Male N (examined), %	Female N (examined), %	ALL N (examined), %	OR (95 % CI) P value
50 - 59 years	6 (1071) 0.6	9(1072), 0.8	15 (2143), 0.7	
60 - 69 years	12 (636), 1.9	9(391), 2.3	21(1027), 2.0	2.9 (1.5-5.7) <0.01
70 - 79 years	15 (289), 5.2	11(123), 8.9	26(412), 6.3	9.5 (5.0 - 18.2) <0.01
80+ years	17 (130), 13.1	8(39), 20.5	25(169) 14.8	24.6 (12.7-47.7) <0.01

CI- Confidence interval; OR=Odds Ratio

Supplement Table 2. Visual outcome after cataract surgery with IOL implantation (n= 459)*

Vision category	Vision	PVA		BCVA	
		n	%	n	%
Very good	can see \geq 6/12	249	54.2	300	65.4
Good	can see 6/18	68	14.8	48	10.5
Borderline	can see 6/60	68	14.8	43	9.4
Poor	cannot see 6/60	74	16.1	68	14.8
Total		459	100	459	100

BCVA- best-corrected visual acuity; PVA- presenting visual acuity

*10 eyes without IOL implantation excluded in this table

Supplement Table 3: Visual outcome after years of Cataract surgery

Vision Category	3 yrs postop		4 - 6 yrs postop.		7+ yrs postop		Total	
	Eyes	%	Eyes	%	Eyes	%	Eyes	%
Very good: can see 6/12	121	58.2%	49	61.3%	80	44.2%	250	53.3%
Good: can see 6/18	22	10.6%	7	8.8%	42	23.2%	71	15.1%
Borderline: can see 6/60	28	13.5%	13	16.3%	28	15.5%	69	14.7%
Poor: cannot see 6/60	37	17.8%	11	13.8%	31	17.1%	79	16.8%
Total	208	100.0%	80	100.0%	181	100.0%	469	100.0%

Supplement Table 4. Comparison of recent RAABs in Afghanistan

Parameters		2010 Badakhshan	2010 Herat	2010 Laghman	2015 Nangarhar	2018 Kabul (current)	2015 Central Asia [12,13]
Sample		2150	2150	2150	1353	3850	
Response %		80.3	82.7	96.8	94.7	97.4	
Visual Impairment %	Blind	2.7	2.7	2.9	8.7	2.4	1.5
	SVI	6.2	5.5	2.8	13.9	2.2	MSVI 8.27
	MVI	11.1	13.4	8.9	22.6	6.9	
Causes of Blindness %	URE	0.0	2.1	0	3.6	1.1	12.8
	Cataract	41.3	52.1	59.0	72.0	36.8	25.6
	Trachom a	17.4	0.0	0	0	0	0.2
	Glaucom a	19.6	20.8	4.9	9.8	2.5	13.8
	AMD	2.2	2.1	0	1.8	11.4	13.3
Causes of SVI %	URE	9.3	19.2	48.3	26.9	6.3	
	Cataract	47.2	65.7	32.8	52.8	54.4	
	Trachom a	14.8	0	0	0	0	
	Glaucom a	10.2	0	3.4	8.6	2.5	
	AMD	5.6	10.1	0	3.4	11.4	
Causes of MVI %	URE	35.1	55.9	81.1	42.0	21.7	48.6
	Cataract	54.5	31.9	12.4	40.4	46.1	17.5
	Trachom a	5.2	0	0	0	0.4	0
	Glaucom a	2.6	1.7	0	7.9	2.0	3.9
	AMD	2.1	5.9	0.5	4.5	13.0	9.6