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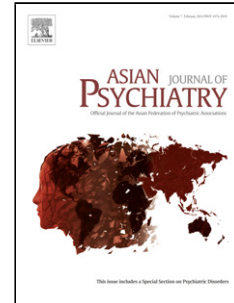
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Title: **The catatonic pupil: An unprivileged entity.**

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Sir,

Assessment of the light reflex is an important test, done in routine medical practices. Light reflex is an important test to assess the brain stem function. Although it has both diagnostic and prognostic values, the dilated nonreactive pupil is a diagnostic challenge for medical professionals. Till date, the known causes of dilated nonreactive pupils can be divided into three categories: (a) Parasympathetic paralysis: generally caused by drugs like atropine and congeners, third nerve paralysis and raised intracranial pressure from any cause. (b) Sympathetic stimulation: common causes are an overdose of sympathomimetic drugs or endogenous secreting tumors like pheochromocytoma. (c) Miscellaneous causes that include cardiac arrest, cyanide poisoning, methanol poisoning, hypothermia and excessively deep anaesthesia¹. In spite of so known causes of dilated nonreactive pupils, psychiatric disorders behind the cause of this phenomenon remain untouched. Pupillary reactions in psychiatric disorders are relatively less explored. In patients with schizophrenia there were contradictory observations, both dilated and constricted pupil but in case of catatonia variety, the pupillary finding is quite constant which was first described by Westphal as a catatonic pupil. He described bilateral pupillary dilation refractory to light in patients with catatonic schizophrenia. Which is similar to the other causes of the dilated pupil. In an emergency situation, this might cause diagnostic dilemma where physicians are less aware of the phenomenon of the catatonic pupil^{2,3}. Also, the commonly used catatonia rating scales haven't included this phenomenon which makes it neglected sign in psychiatric disorders⁴. In view of that here we are presenting the series of cases where we observed the catatonic pupil to delineate the commonality of this hidden sign.

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