

## Supplementary File

### Burden of visual impairment associated with eye diseases: an exploratory survey of 298 Chinese patients

#### Appendix 1 The items of the survey questionnaire.

Variable name	Description
<b>Sociodemographic information</b>	
age	[19,50], [51,70], [71,90]
gender	Male, Female
ethnicity	Han, Minority
educational level	Primary and below, Middle and high school, College and above
Occupation *	Management personnel, Professional personnel, General staff, Farmer, Other professions, Unemployed
marital status	Unmarried, Married
living status	Alone, With family
current living place	Urban, Rural
medical insurance †	None, NCMS, URBMI, UEBMI, GMI, CMI,
personal income	Continuous
household size	Continuous
household income	Continuous
<b>Clinic-related information</b>	
level of visual impairment	moderate VI , severe VI , blind
Duration of visual impairment ‡	3-6 months, 6-12 months, More than 12 months
Cause of visual impairment	Cataract, AMD, Vascular retinopathy, Glaucoma, Other eye diseases, Multiple ocular diseases
Outpatient visit	Continuous
Inpatient visit	Continuous
Hospital stay per visit	Continuous
<b>Economic burden</b>	
<b>Direct medical costs §</b>	
Outpatient costs	Continuous
Outpatient drug costs	Continuous
Outpatient out-of-pocket costs	Continuous
Inpatient costs	Continuous
Inpatient drug costs	Continuous
Inpatient out-of-pocket costs	Continuous
Self-purchased drugs costs	Continuous
Self-purchased drugs out-of-pocket costs	Continuous
<b>Direct non-medical costs</b>	
Long-term home care costs	Continuous
Transportation costs	Continuous
Food or accommodation costs	Continuous
Escort costs	Continuous
Nutrition or assistive devices costs	Continuous
Home modifications	Continuous
<b>Quality of life</b>	Continuous

\* Occupation included current profession of unretired participants and former profession for the retired. Professional personnel were professional and technical personnel, i.e. teachers, doctors, lawyers, engineer, etc.

† Public insurance included new cooperative medical scheme in rural area (NCMS), urban employee basic medical insurance (UEBMI), urban resident basic medical insurance (URBMI) and government medical insurance (GMI). Commercial medical insurance (CMI) was supplements of public medical insurance purchased by respondents' employers or by themselves.

‡ Duration of VI was defined by the period from the time which the participants became their current visual impaired level.

§ Direct medical costs measured the cost of resources used for treating a particular illness, consisted of outpatient costs, inpatient costs and self-purchased drugs costs. Expenditures for medicine prescribed and purchased during outpatient and inpatient visits in hospitals were included in outpatient and inpatient drug costs, respectively. The cost of self-purchased drugs was the expense of the drugs that patients bought in pharmacies (not in hospitals) for their ocular disease treatment after the initial diagnosis.

|| Cost of escort were meals, transport and accommodation costs encountered by patients' escorts during all outpatient or inpatient visits.