

Table 1. Examples of five statements in the AAO* POAG† guidelines, restated clinical questions, and systematic reviews identified.

Statements in the AAO POAG guidelines	Restated clinical questions	Cochrane systematic reviews‡ (clinical question(s) addressed)	Non-Cochrane systematic reviews‡ (clinical question(s) addressed)
<p>The IOP§ can be lowered by medical treatment, or by laser, filtering, or cyclodestructive surgery (alone or in combination).</p> <p>The choice of initial therapy depends on numerous considerations, and discussion of treatment with the patient should include appropriate optins. [A:III]</p> <p>In many instances, topical medications constitute effective initial therapy. 56 [A:1]</p>	<p>A. Is medical therapy an effective initial treatment in lowering IOP in patients with POAG?</p> <p>B. What is the effect of discussion of treatment options on the choice of initial therapy?</p>	<p>1 (A, C–G)</p> <p>2 (C–G)</p>	<p>1 (C)</p> <p>2 (C)</p> <p>3 (C)</p> <p>4 (C, D)</p> <p>5 (C, D)</p> <p>6 (C, D, F)</p> <p>7 (C, D, F)</p> <p>8 (C, D, E, F)</p> <p>9 (C, G)</p> <p>10 (D)</p> <p>11 (D)</p>
<p>The prostaglandin analogs and the beta adrenergic antagonists are the most frequently used eye drops for lowering IOP in patients with glaucoma.</p>	<p>C. Are prostaglandin analog eye-drops effective in lowering IOP in patients with POAG?</p> <p>D. Are beta-adrenergic antagonist eye-drops effective in lowering IOP in patients with POAG?</p>		
<p>Agents less frequently used include alpha₂ adrenergic agonists, topical and oral carbonic anhydrase inhibitors, and parasympathomimetics.</p>	<p>E. Are alpha₂ adrenergic agonist eye-drops effective in lowering IOP in patients with POAG?</p> <p>F. Are topical and oral carbonic anhydrase inhibitors effective in lowering IOP in patients with POAG?</p> <p>G. Are parasympathomimetic eye-drops effective in lowering IOP in patients with POAG?</p>		

*American Academy of Ophthalmology.

†Primary open angle glaucoma.

‡2 Cochrane and 11 non-Cochrane systematic reviews pertaining to one or more clinical questions were identified.

§Intraocular pressure.