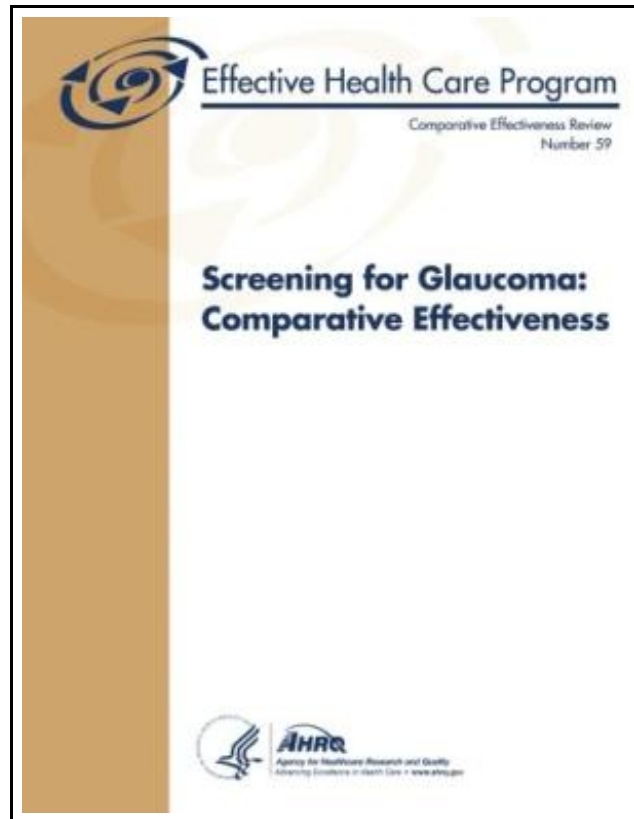


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Createspace. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 270 pages. Dimensions: 11.0in. x 8.5in. x 0.6in. Glaucoma is a leading cause of visual impairment and blindness and affects approximately 60.5 million people worldwide. Although glaucoma may be characterized by optic nerve damage, visual field loss, and elevated intraocular pressure, there is no consensus definition for confirming diagnosis. Damage is irreversible, so early detection can prevent severe vision loss. Open-angle glaucoma (OAG), the most common subtype of the disease, affects more than 2.5 million people in the United States, with a median age-adjusted prevalence of 4.6 percent among black people and 1.6 percent among white people (based on year 2000 estimates). Unfortunately, it has been shown that only half of the prevalent cases of glaucoma have been identified in the United States due to at least two factors. First, glaucoma is an asymptomatic disease that patients do not notice until the onset of advanced disease, accompanied by severe vision loss. Second, there is no single test to identify people with glaucoma, which has severely hampered the establishment of screening-based programs to detect the disease. The March 2005 U. S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommendation addressing screening for glaucoma stated that there was insufficient evidence to recommend for or against screening adults for glaucoma. The USPSTF noted that intraocular pressure measurement and optic nerve head assessment alone have limited effectiveness as population based screening tools. The USPSTF also concluded that methods used to assess visual field loss may be impractical for population-based screening due to the length of time required for testing and the challenge of equipment portability. Since 2005, there have been significant advances in the devices used to assess optic nerve structure and function, with several published studies on new diagnostic tests,...



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