

Glaucoma may result from white matter degeneration

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(HealthDay)—Glaucoma may be associated with lower fractional

anisotropy in the optic radiations, forceps major, and corpus callosum, possibly as a result of white matter degeneration, according to a study published online April 25 in *Ophthalmic & Physiological Optics*.

Christine C. Boucard, Ph.D., from Jikei University in Japan, and colleagues performed diffusion tensor imaging in 30 participants with normal-pressure glaucoma and 21 age-matched healthy controls. Fractional anisotropy and mean diffusivity of the [white matter](#) of the brain were compared between the groups using voxel-wise tract-based spatial statistics.

The researchers found that fractional anisotropy was significantly lower in glaucoma patients in a cluster in the right occipital lobe (P corpus callosum and parietal lobe (P

"In this specific population, [glaucoma](#) is associated with lower fractional anisotropy in the optic radiations, forceps major, and corpus callosum. We interpret these reductions as evidence for white matter degeneration in these loci," write the authors.

More information: [Abstract](#)
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