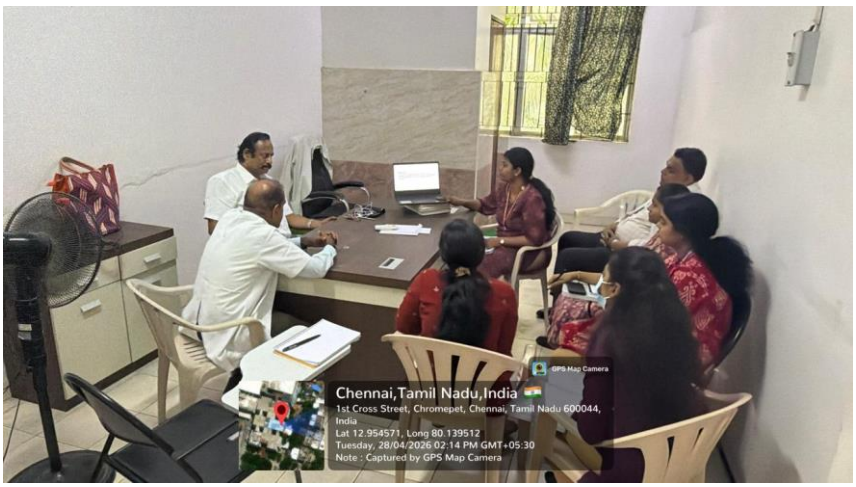
SREE BALAJI MEDICAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL

DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

SEMINAR

Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension (IIH) is a condition where the pressure inside the skull (intracranial pressure) is elevated **without an obvious cause** like a tumor or infection. It's sometimes called *pseudotumor cerebri* because it mimics symptoms of a brain tumor.

Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension (IIH), also known as pseudotumor cerebri, is a neurological condition characterized by increased pressure inside the skull without an identifiable cause such as a brain tumor, infection, or bleeding. It commonly affects women of childbearing age, particularly those who are overweight or obese. The increased intracranial pressure occurs due to an imbalance in the production and absorption of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF). Patients typically present with symptoms such as persistent headaches, blurred or double vision, transient episodes of vision loss, pulsatile tinnitus (a whooshing sound in the ears), nausea, and papilledema, which is swelling of the optic disc seen on eye examination. Diagnosis is made through neuroimaging studies to exclude other causes and a lumbar puncture demonstrating elevated CSF pressure. Treatment focuses on reducing intracranial pressure, relieving symptoms, and preventing vision loss through weight reduction, medications such as Acetazolamide, and, in severe cases, surgical interventions like CSF shunting or optic nerve sheath fenestration.