This study was conducted to evaluate the depression and quality of life of individuals with glaucoma over 60 years of age. The study was conducted as a descriptive and cross-sectional research. The population of the work consists of individuals aged 60 years and over who were followed up at Mersin University Medicine Hospital Ophthalmology Department between 01 October 2016 and 31 March 2017. The sample of the study consisted of 130 patients who met the inclusion criteria. The data were gathered with three forms, "Personal Information Form" which contains the identification information of the individuals, "Geriatric Depression Scale" which was used to evaluate the severity of depression and "Modified GLAU-QOL 17 Glaucoma Quality of Life" which was applied to determine the quality of life of the patients. Number, percentage, mean, Pearson Correlation, Student’s t test, ANOVA test, Tukey and Games-Howell statistic were used in the evaluation of the data.

The mean age of the patients was 67.9 ± 7.27. The mean score of geriatric depression scale of the patients was 15.23 ± 5.52. It was determined that 16.2% of the patients had possible depression and 62.3% had definite depression. The median GLAU-QOL-17 Glaucoma Quality of Life Questionnaire scale scores of the patients were as follows: daily life (3.58±3.25), car use (3.23±2.53), anxiety (5.26±3.47), self evaluation (6.4±3.07), psychology (4.08±2.74), feeling under pressure (4.39±2.35) and taking responsibility (3.56±1.86). Modified GLAU-QOL-17 Glaucoma Related Quality of Life Questionnaire the mean total score was 61±30.46. There was a negative and statistically significant relationship between the mean age of the patients and the mean scores of geriatric depression and the mean scores of age and quality of life. The mean scores of the Geriatric Depression Scale and the Modified GLAU-QOL-17 Glaucoma Quality of Life Questionnaire were found to be significantly lower in women who lost their husbands and "illiterate” and “literate”.

In the light of the results obtained from this study, it is suggested that nurses working in eye care service should take into consideration that glaucoma patients are at higher risk for care giving in advanced age when they lose their wife, have low education level and women's quality of life and depressive symptoms. It is also suggested that nurses regularly evaluate mental status and quality of life in glaucomatous individuals in the spirit of holistic and humanistic approach philosophy with valid measurement tools.