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## Amniotic membrane transplantation with narrow-strip conjunctival autograft vs. conjunctival autograft for recurrent Pterygia

José Bonifácio Barbosa, Charles Costa De Farias, Flávio Eduardo Hirai, and José Álvaro Pereira Gomes  
Federal University of Sao Paulo, Brazil

**Introduction:** To compare amniotic membrane transplantation (AMT) associated with narrow-strip conjunctival autograft versus conjunctival autograft alone for the treatment of recurrent pterygium.

**Methods:** Prospective consecutive interventional study. Patients with recurrent pterygium were randomly divided into one of two groups; Group 1: patients undergoing AMT associated with autologous conjunctival graft, and Group 2: patients undergoing conjunctival autograft alone.

**Results:** Of the 80 operated eyes included in this study, 39 (Group 1, mean patient age:  $52.1 \pm 11.7$ SD years) underwent AMT associated with narrow-strip conjunctival autograft and 41 (Group 2, mean patient age:  $45.8 \pm 12.9$ SD years) underwent conjunctival autograft alone. In Group 1, 6 eyes (15.4%) had grade-1 pterygium, 19 eyes (48.7%) had grade-2 pterygium, and 14 eyes (35.9%) had grade-3 pterygium. In the second group, 5 eyes (12.2%) had grade-1 pterygium, 18 eyes (43.9%) had grade-2 pterygium, and 14 eyes (35.9%) had grade-3 pterygium. No statistically significant difference was found between the two groups ( $P = 0.752$ ). Of the 39 eyes in Group 1, recurrent pterygium was observed in 7 cases (17.9%). However, of the 41 eyes in Group 2, recurrent pterygium was observed in only 4 cases (9.75%). No statistically significant difference was found between the two groups ( $P = 0.2684$ ).

**Conclusions:** The results of this study indicate that conjunctival autograft alone might be a better surgical choice for the treatment of recurrent pterygia than combining it with AMT, however, this second option provides a good surgical alternative in cases where little conjunctival donor tissue is available.

### Biography

Bonifácio Barbosa Jr has her expertise in external disease, cornea and refractive surgery. Post-graduate Federal University of Sao Paulo (UNIFESP). Ophthalmologist Federal University of Maranhao (UFMA)

bonioftalmo@hotmail.com

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