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Study the effect of polishing of the posterior capsule and retro-IOL irrigation-aspiration after IOL insertion on the incidence of early post-operative capsular block syndrome (CBS) and post-cataract opacification (PCO)

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Purpose: To study the effect of polishing of the posterior capsule and retro-IOL irrigation-aspiration after IOL insertion on the incidence of early post-operative capsular block syndrome (CBS) and post-cataract opacification (PCO).

Setting: Department of Ophthalmology, V.M.M.C & Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi.

Methods: 200 patients selected from January 2015 to July 2015, were randomly allocated to two groups of 100: Group A underwent polishing of the posterior capsule and retro-IOL irrigation-aspiration after IOL insertion while Group B underwent smooth uneventful phacoemulsification and in-the-bag IOL insertion but without polishing of the bag after IOL insertion. Post-operative assessment by slit-lamp and anterior segment OCT was done at 1 week, 1 month, 3 months and 6 months. Slit-lamp examination was done for any anterior chamber reaction. Early post-operative capsular block syndrome was diagnosed by postoperative myopia or refractive surprises when a shallow anterior chamber and a distended capsular bag with IOL separation are found. Post-cataract opacification was seen on slit-lamp examination.

Results: Group A did not have any cases of early post-operative CBS and 4 cases of PCO at 6 months. Group B had 6 cases of early post-operative CBS and 13 cases of PCO at 6 months. The difference was statistically significant both for early post-operative CBS ($p=0.0289$) and PCO at 6 months ($p=0.0398$).

Conclusions: Polishing of the posterior capsule and retro-IOL irrigation-aspiration after IOL insertion significantly decreases the incidence of early post-operative capsular block syndrome (CBS) and post-cataract opacification (PCO).

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