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A 10 year review of pediatric cataract surgery outcomes at Singapore National Eye Centre (SNEC) and Kandang Kerbau Children's Hospital (KKH)

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This retrospective study is based on clinical audit that was performed annually on all children aged 16 years and younger who underwent cataract surgery at SNEC and KKH from year 2003 to 2014. The study population comprises 3 groups. Group 1 includes all children who underwent cataract surgery. Group 2 comprises children who were 8 years of age or older at time of surgery and who had at least 2 months of post-operative follow-up. Group 3 refers to children who had cataract surgery before 8 years of age and who then attained the age of 8 years during the study period. The visual outcome of group 3 is based on the findings when the child is at the visually mature age of 8 years. Final visual acuity results were taken when the child had attained the age of at least 8 years. A total of 192 children and 253 eyes (Group 1) underwent cataract surgery during the study period. Seventy-two children (83 eyes) were 8 years or older at time of surgery (group 2). About 75% of children achieve Snellen best-corrected vision of at least 6/18 at 8 years of age. Good visual outcome after pediatric cataract surgery is generally seen in bilateral and developmental cataracts without other structural ocular abnormality. Poor visual outcome is associated with pre-existing ocular disease eg., Cornea scar, retinal detachment or post-operative complication eg. glaucoma, posterior capsule opacification and retinal detachment. Poor compliance or delay in amblyopia treatment is also associated with poorer visual outcome.

Biography

Quah Boon Long has completed his graduation from the National University of Singapore. He trained in Ophthalmology at Singapore General Hospital, Tan Tock Seng Hospital and SNEC. He underwent fellowship training in Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus at SNEC and The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. He is a Fellow of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore, Fellow of Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, and a Council Member of Asia-Pacific Strabismus and Paediatric Ophthalmology Society. He currently heads the Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus Department at SNEC. His areas of interest include pediatric cataracts, strabismus, childhood myopia and retinoblastoma.

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