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Recovering full 20/20 uncorrected visual acuity in patients transplanted for keratoconus

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Aim: The aim of this study was to evaluate the possibility and effectiveness of reaching 20/20 uncorrected visual acuity after refractive surgery in patients treated with anterior lamellar keratoplasty for keratoconus, as part of their full visual recovery.

Method: This is a retrospective review of 30 patients (22 eyes) treated with automated lamellar keratoplasty for moderate to severe keratoconus. One year after surgery, suture removal was completed and refractive surgery (LASEK) was evaluated for them to depend less on glasses or contact lenses. All surgeries were done by a single surgeon.

Results: After automated lamellar keratoplasty, all 22 eyes restored normal thickness and acceptable curvature improving uncorrected and best corrected visual acuity compare to before surgery. All 30 patients were candidates for refractive surgery LASEK which was performed with no complications. Final uncorrected visual acuity after three months was: 17 eyes (77.2%) 20/20, two eyes (9.9%) 20/25, One eye (4.5%) 20/30 and two eyes (9.09%) 20/40.

Conclusion: Refractive surgery in its variant of LASEK is a very useful and safe procedure to remove post lamellar keratoplasty refractive errors. It is limited to the amount of degree to treat and other procedures such as LASIK or phakic IOL insertions are possibly good alternatives. All patients operated bilaterally were able to develop their normal life activities depending less on glasses and started doing sport activities that previously were impossible.

Biography

Cesar Gomezperalta is a Senior Consultant Eye Surgeon in the field of Cornea, Cataract and Refractive Surgery at Angeles Lomas Hospital in Mexico City. He specializes in Lamellar Corneal Transplant and Ocular Reconstruction. He is the Founder and Director of Vision-Percepcion heading the Keratoconus and Corneal Transplant Clinic. He is the Chairman of the World Wide Alumni of the Singapore National Eye Centre and was appointed Chairman for the 2013 world meeting of the World Association of Eye Hospitals. He received his Medical Degree from the Anahuac University School of Medicine and then trained in General Surgery & Laparoscopy at the American British Cowdray Hospital. He completed his Ophthalmology residency at the Lopez Mateos Regional Hospital and visited as a fellow the Wolfe Clinic in Iowa, USA. He then spent a few years specializing in Cornea, Cataract and Refractive Surgery at the Singapore National Eye Centre in Singapore, where he also gained experience in Ocular Surface Reconstruction and Artificial Corneas.

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