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Equatorial scleral anchor for the weakening of the inferior oblique muscle

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Purpose: The study was conducted to evaluate the mid-term effectiveness of a new surgical approach in the reduction of overaction of the inferior oblique muscle.

Methods: A new surgical treatment was developed consisting of suturing the muscle to the sclera at the Gobin point with tendon sparing by way of a micro-incision to reduce any tissue damage during the surgical procedure and to enhance the healing process. The treatment was evaluated postoperatively in a group of 143 patients with primary or secondary inferior oblique overaction.

Findings: All patients experienced a complete resolution of the elevation in adduction with no residual vertical imbalance and an improvement in lateral incomitance.

Conclusion & Significance: The outcome of the new equatorial scleral anchor surgical treatment has been generally accepted as favorable in our study, also if compared with the results yielded by the most frequently used anterior transposition of the inferior oblique muscle. The new surgical treatment appears to be a relatively less invasive, safe, reversible technique, including the potential to perform the procedure with an adjustable suture..

Biography

Lelio Sabetti is an Ophthalmologist and the In-charge of the Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus Unit in the Department of Biotechnological and Applied Clinical Sciences at the University of L'Aquila, Italy. His work focuses on strabismus in children and adults, and treatment of amblyopia. He is a member of the Italian Strabismus Association (AIS) and the European Strabismological Association (ESA).

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