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Combined phacoemulsification with express device: A procedure of choice in advanced open angle glaucoma

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Purpose: To determine the intraocular pressure control and visual outcomes; following combined phacoemulsification with express device, in cases of advanced open angle glaucoma.

Design: Retrospective, interventional, consecutive, non-comparative case series.

Participants: Patients of advanced glaucoma and cataract not controlled on maximal medication.

Methods: Single eye, in 6 patients, with advanced open angle glaucoma, on maximum anti-glaucomatous medical therapy, underwent combined two-site surgery; Phacoemulsification with implantation of acrylic IOL followed by filtering surgery, Ex-PRESS miniature glaucoma shunt implantation was performed using 0.02% MMC. The standard procedure was performed under peribulbar anaesthesia without complications; implantation was well positioned, whole surgery was performed by the same surgeon, in the Department of Ophthalmology, Ahalia Hospital Abu Dhabi. Post-operatively, we recommended combined antibiotic and steroid drops every four hours in the first week followed by taper.

Main Outcome Measures: Evaluated parameters were visual acuity, intraocular pressure control, bleb morphology on 1st, 7th post-operative day, 1, 3 and 6 months after surgery. Surgical success was defined as 5 mm Hg ≤ intraocular pressure ≤ 18 mm Hg, with or without medications, without further glaucoma surgery.

Results: In a case series of six patients, the mean pre-operative intraocular pressure was 30.66 ± 3.59 mm Hg on 3.83 ± 0.37 anti-glaucoma eye drops. The mean day 1, day 7, day 30, 90 and 180 days IOP were 12.83 ± 2.96, 12.67 ± 2.49, 12.0 ± 2.82, 11.0 ± 2.51, 11.34 ± 3.20 mmHg, respectively. Five out of six had IOP < 18 mmHg without medication and all had IOP < 18 mmHg with anti-glaucoma medication. No intra-operative or post-operative complications were noted.

Conclusion: The Express Device demonstrates good IOP control in cases of advanced glaucoma with fewer propensities to hypotony or wipe out.

Biography

Baswati Prasanth, Specialist in Ophthalmology, has completed her MS Ophthalmology from Armed Forces Medical College, Pune and Fellowship in Glaucoma and Anterior segment from Dr Shroff's Eye Hospital, New Delhi. She is the winner of A D Patwardhan Gold medal from University of Pune. She is the Director of Ophthalmology, Ahalia Hospital, Abu Dhabi. She has published more than 15 papers in reputed journals and has been part of several clinical trials.

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