

Connecting the O's: Collaborative Care in the 21st Century





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Cecelia Koetting Financial Disclosures

"All relevant relationships have been mitigated."

Ocular Therapeutic -C	+ Glaukos-C	Oyster Point/Viatrix-C, S,R
Horizon-C	+ B +L -C,S	Allergan/Abbvie -C,S,R
Ivantis-C	+ Iveric-C	Alcon-C,S
Oras-C	+ Aldura-C	Visus-C,S
Oto-C	+ Claris Bio-C	Harrow-C,S
Trukera-C	+ Aldeyra-C	Thea-C,R
LENZ-C	+ Twenty Twenty Therapeutics-C	Bruder-C
PRN-C,S	+ Dompe-C,S,R	Blinkjoy-C
Kala-R		SCOPE-C
Tarus-C,S,R		
Topcon-C		

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Why Optometric Co-management?

High quality eye care

Benefits to patient care

Utilize skills and expertise of each practitioner

}

Patient comfort

Patient convenience

Efficiency

Cost effective

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Pearls on Optometric Co-management

Get to know your surgeon

Convey patient preferences, observations and conditions to your surgeon

Inform your patients on your role in perioperative care

Successful co-management is the result of continuous communication

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Supply and Demand: Growing Gap in Access to Medical Eye Care

- **Demand** for eye care services has been projected to increase
- **Supply of Ophthalmologists** only expected to decrease
- From 2020 to 2035, the total ophthalmology supply is projected to decrease by 2650 full-time equivalent (FTE) ophthalmologists (12% decline)
- Total demand is projected to increase by 5150 FTE ophthalmologists (24% increase), representing a supply and demand mismatch of 30% workforce inadequacy.

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High Expectations in Cataract Refractive Surgery

- Patient expectations are at an all-time high for refractive surgery
- Positive experiences with LASIK have produced high expectations, at a minimum achieving:
 - 92.6% of LASIK patients with vision of 20/40 or better*
 - 95.4% of patients satisfied with their outcome after LASIK surgery**
- Cataract surgery outcomes may not be meeting the target of $\pm 0.5D$ that is considered the standard

***LASIK Surgery Statistics - DocuStep.com
 **Gallagher, K et al. (2003) LASIK and patient expectations: quality of life and patient satisfaction. Ophthalmology, 110(4):91-95
 *Graham, Dale from Dr. Warren J. & Baruch, A. et al. Astigmatism after cataract surgery. Swedish National Cataract Register study. J Cataract Refract Surg. 2012;38(7):1118-16.

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Preparation for Ocular Surgery

- Optimize the Ocular Surface
- Normalize the Lids
- Prepare the Cornea
- Eliminate Intra-ocular Inflammation
- Control Glaucoma
- Evaluate the Macula
- Evaluate the Retinal Periphery
- Patient Education**

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Dry Eye Disease

Chair time: blurred vision from cataracts versus DED

Cataract sx can worsen DED for months after surgery

Quality of vision may require chronic DED therapies

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ARTICLE

Prevalence of ocular surface dysfunction in patients presenting for cataract surgery evaluation

Preeya K. Gupta, MD, Owen J. Drinkwater, BS, BA, Keith W. VanDusen, BS, Ashley R. Brissette, MD, MS, Christopher E. Starr, MD

Results: There were 120 patients (69% women), mean age 69.5 years ± 8.4 (SD). Abnormal osmolarity was found in 68 patients (56.7%), and abnormal MMP-9 in 76 patients (63.3%). Clinical findings showed that 47 patients (39.2%) had positive corneal staining on presentation, 9 patients (7.5%) had epithelial basement membrane dystrophy, and 2 patients (1.6%) had Salzmann nodules. Questionnaire data showed 54 (45.0%) of 100 patients reported symptoms suggestive of ocular surface dysfunction. In the asymptomatic group of 46 patients, 39 (85%) had at least 1 abnormal tear test (osmolarity or MMP-9) and 22 (48%) had both tests abnormal. Overall, 96 (80%) of 120 patients had at least 1 abnormal tear test result suggestive of ocular surface dysfunction and 48 patients (40%) had 2 abnormal results.

J Cataract and Refractive Surgery 2018

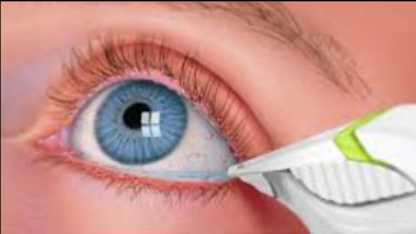
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Cataract Surgery and Dry Eye

- Incidence: 42% eyes at 1 week follow-up, up to 1/3 of patients after 3 months after surgery!^{1,2}
- Etiology:
 - Decreased goblet cell density, age, duration of exposure to microscope light and effective phacoemulsification time³
 - Possibly worse with femtosecond laser-assisted cataract surgery⁴
 - Possibly grooved incision⁵
 - Medication toxicities
- No relationship to incision location

1. Ishrat S, Nema N, Chandravadani SCL. Saudi J Ophthalmol. 2019 Jan-Mar;33(1):34-40.
 2. Igreja E, Galor A, et al. Cornea. 2018;36:771-779.
 3. Kohli P, Hamba U, et al. Int Ophthalmol. 2019 Jun;39(6):1345-1353.
 4. Yu Y, Yao X, et al. J Cataract Refract Surg. 2015 Dec;41(12):2014-23.
 5. Cho YK, Kim MS, Korea J Ophthalmol. 2009 Jun;23(2):65-73.

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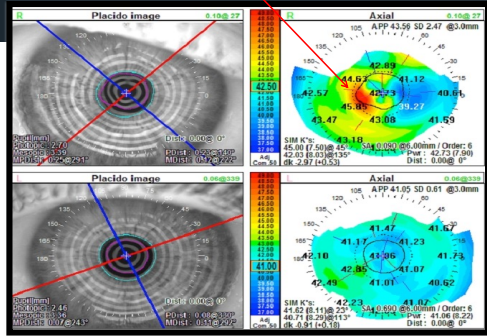
Effect of Tear Osmolarity on Repeatability of Keratometry for Cataract Surgery Planning

Epiropoulos, Alice T, et al. Journal of Cataract & Refractive Surgery, Volume 41, Issue 8, 1672-1677

- Significantly more variability in average K and anterior corneal astigmatism was observed in the hyperosmolar group, with significant resultant differences in IOL power calculations.
- Variability was not significantly different when subjects were grouped by self-reported dry eye.
- Measurement of tear osmolarity at the time of cataract surgery planning can effectively identify patients with a higher likelihood of high unexpected refractive error resulting from inaccurate keratometry.

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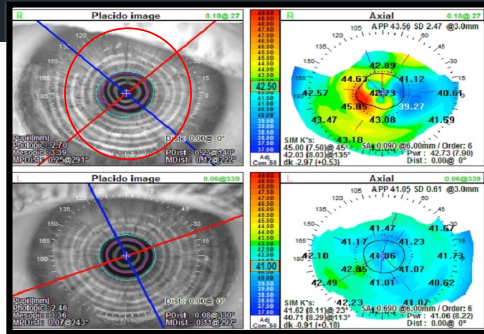
"Hot spots" and "Flat spots" are abnormal



The top set of images shows a Placido image with a red 'Hot spot' and a blue 'Flat spot' on the cornea. The corresponding Axial image shows a color-coded topography with a red area (steep) and a blue area (flat). The bottom set shows a more uniform corneal topography with a more regular Placido image and Axial image.

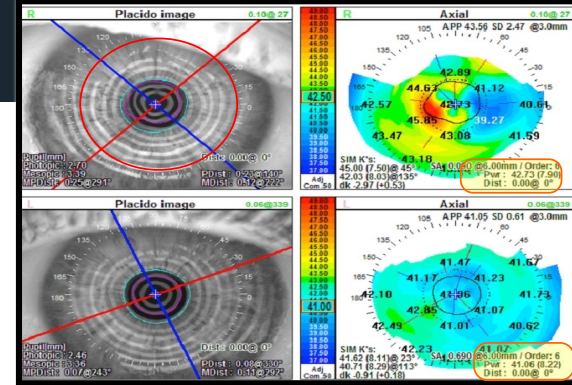
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Irregularly shaped or smudgy placido disk is abnormal!



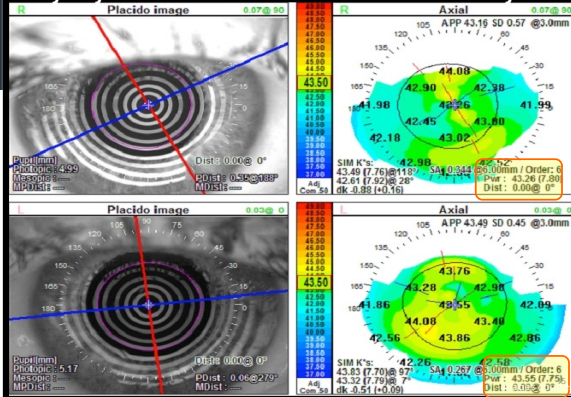
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Are Average K Values Different?



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Post-Dry Eye Treatment: K Values Are Symmetrical



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Cataract Surgery and Dry Eye

Meibomian gland function can be affected after cataract surgery

- Meibomian gland function may worsen with or without structural changes after cataract surgery^{6,7}
- Alterations in MG expressibility and TBUT persist for up to 3 months postoperatively⁸

Pre-existing DED is a significant risk factor for post-op DED!¹⁷

- Compared with the no dry eye group, dry eye group revealed significantly higher post-op ocular symptom scores, lower TBUT, higher lid margin abnormalities, meibum quality and expressibility scores.

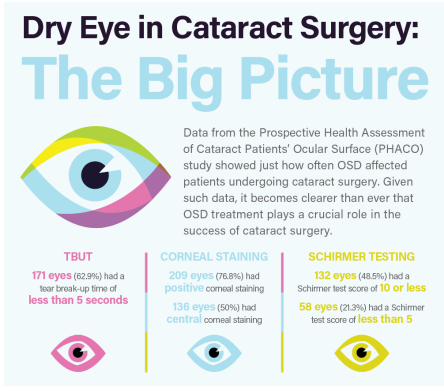
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6. Han KE, Seo KY, et al. Am J Ophthalmol. 2014 Jun;157(6):1144-1150.
 7. Park Y, Hwang HB, Kim IS, et al. Plus One. 2016 Oct 3;11(10):e0152460.
 8. El Ameen A, Pustillo FJ, et al. J Fr Ophthalmol. 2018 May;41(5):e173-e180.

60% of Routine Cataract Patients were ASYMPTOMATIC

50% had central corneal staining

Dry Eye in Cataract Surgery: The Big Picture



Data from the Prospective Health Assessment of Cataract Patients' Ocular Surface (PHACO) study showed just how often OSD affected patients undergoing cataract surgery. Given such data, it becomes clearer than ever that OSD treatment plays a crucial role in the success of cataract surgery.

TBUT

171 eyes (62.3%) had a tear break-up time of **less than 5 seconds**

CORNEAL STAINING

209 eyes (76.8%) had **positive** corneal staining

136 eyes (50%) had **central** corneal staining

SCHIRMER TESTING

132 eyes (48.5%) had a Schirmer test score of **10 or less**

58 eyes (21.3%) had a Schirmer test score of **less than 5**

Trotter WB, Majumdar PA, Donnenfeld ED, McDonald MB, Stonecipher KG, Goldberg DF. The Prospective Health Assessment of Cataract Patients' Ocular Surface (PHACO) study: the effect of dry eye. Clin Ophthalmol 2017; 11:1423-1430

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New Research

Evaluated the effect of microscope exposure time on dry eye incidence

Determined that overall in patients undergoing SICS microscope exposure time was not significantly associated with the incidence of dry eye at 1-week or 1-month follow-up


In the phacoemulsification group, exposure time >15 min was found to be significantly associated with an increased risk of dry eye at first follow-up

Test	Pre-Op	1 week	1 month
Schirmer	27.22±4.40	12.91±2.95	24.61±6.32
TBUT	13.50±1.89	9.64±2.20	13.16±2.45
Lissamine Green Greater than 2	34.2%	97.5%	44.2%

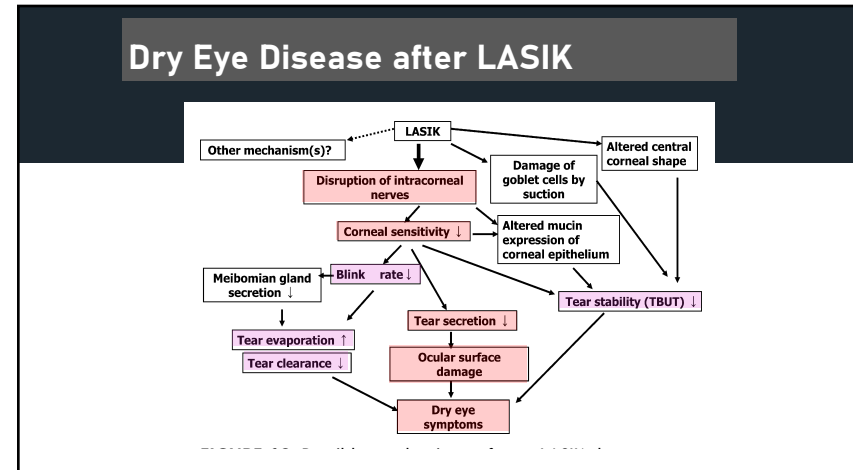
Garg P, Gupta A, Tandon N, Raj P. Dry Eye Disease after Cataract Surgery: Study of its Determinants and Risk Factors. Turk J Ophthalmol. 2020;50(3):133-142. doi:10.4274/tjo.galenos.2019.45538

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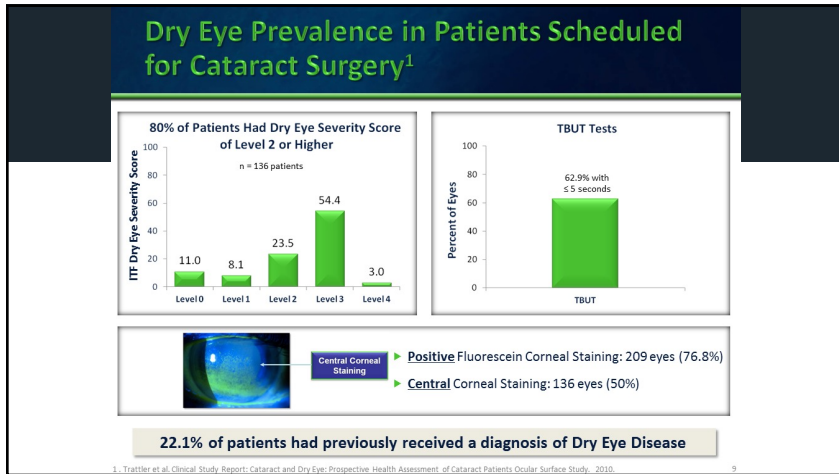
- More than 1 million LASIK surgeries are performed annually in the US
- Dry eye signs and symptoms are found in 50% of the patients who had LASIK at PO 1 week, 40% at PO 4 weeks, and 20-40% at PO 6 months (Toda et al.)
- Pre-op dry eye is considered a risk factor for the development of chronic post-operative dry eye



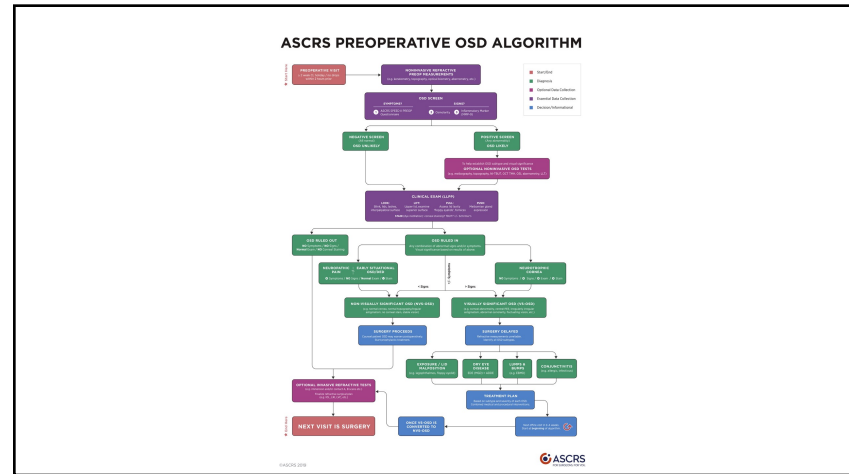
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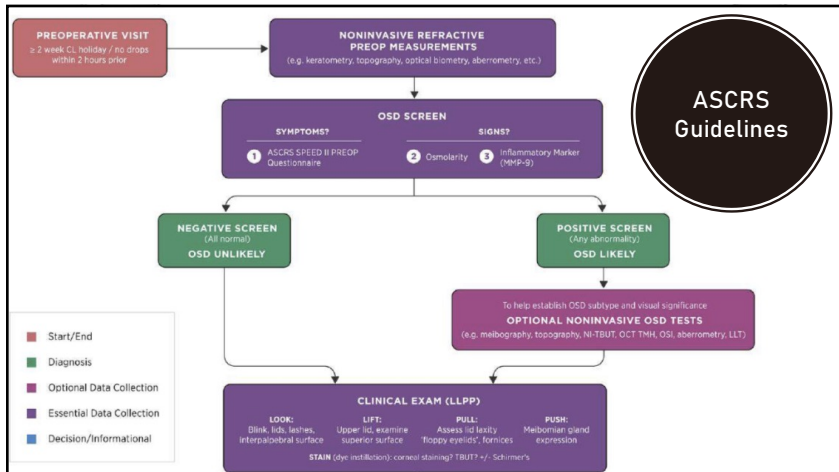
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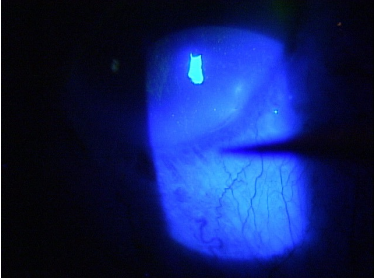
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What to Look for After Cataract Surgery?

- 1 day - High or low IOP
- 3-7 days - Endophthalmitis
- 2-3 weeks - Steroid Responder
- 3-4 weeks - Iritis/Uveitis
- 4-6 weeks - CME
- 2 months - Posterior capsule opacification

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IOP Spikes



- Cause:
 - Day 1- Retained viscoelastics
 - Week 3-4 - steroid response
- Long standing glaucoma
- Treatment:
 - Topical glaucoma agents
 - Diamox
 - Osmoglyn
 - Just Burp it

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Decompression/Wound Burp: Does it Really Work?

- IOP rise occurs 5 to 7 hours after surgery
- Causes ocular pain
- Causes sight threatening complications
 - Retinal vascular occlusion
 - Progressive VF loss in advanced glaucoma
 - AION
- Controls IOP typically for 1 hour
- Additional treatment needed to protect vulnerable eyes

Hildebrand et. Al. Efficacy of anterior chamber decompression in controlling early intraocular pressure spikes after uneventful phacoemulsification. J Cataract Refract Surg 2003; 29:1087-1092.

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Wound Complications

Potential for postoperative endophthalmitis

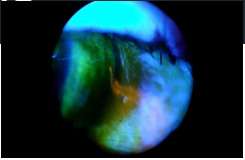
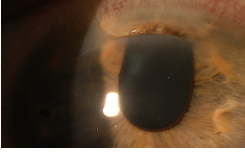
Shallow A/C

Low IOP

Perform seidel test

If A/C formed and no secondary complication from hypotony, treat conservatively

- Bandage contact lens
- Antibiotics - QID
- Follow up q24h

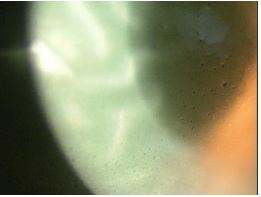
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Cornea Edema

- Hypotony and endothelial shock
- Prolonged phaco time
- Dense nucleus
- Endothelial health - >650 microns, Fuch's

Appearance

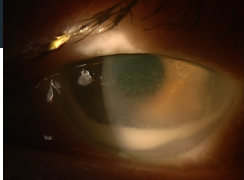
- Microcystic edema
- Stromal folds and haze



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Endophthalmitis

- 4+ cell and hypopyon
- Pain
- Eyelid edema
- Decreased vision
- Must see the patient
- Surgical emergency:** hours (not days) make a difference

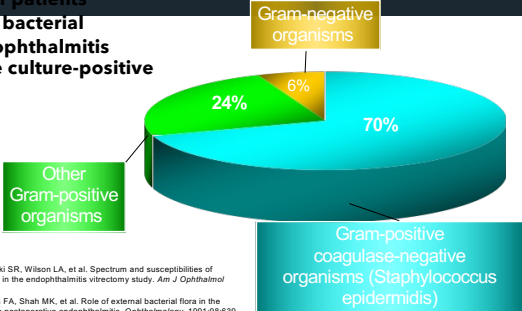


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Post-Cataract Surgery Endophthalmitis

Endophthalmitis Vitrectomy Study

69% of patients with bacterial endophthalmitis were culture-positive



Organism Type	Percentage
Gram-positive coagulase-negative organisms (Staphylococcus epidermidis)	70%
Other Gram-positive organisms	24%
Gram-negative organisms	6%

1. Han DP, Wisniewski SR, Wilson LA, et al. Spectrum and susceptibilities of microbiologic isolates in the endophthalmitis vitrectomy study. *Am J Ophthalmol* 1996;122(1):1-17.
2. Speker MG, Mlich FA, Shah MK, et al. Role of external bacterial flora in the pathogenesis of acute postoperative endophthalmitis. *Ophthalmology*. 1991;98:639-649

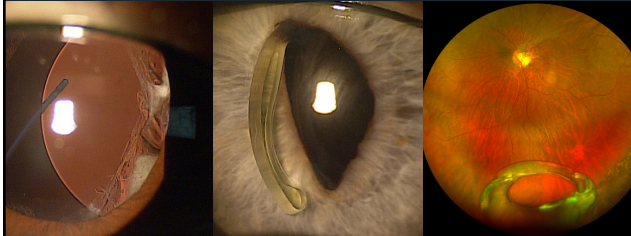
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IOL Surprises

- Greater than 1D from planned refractive result
- Poor measurements - Axial length, Keratometry, A-constant, Software program
- Mistake in the OR
- Wrong packaging
- Must identify problem within the **first week***
- Treatment
 - IOL exchange

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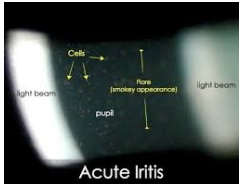
Dislocated IOL



- Consider in High Risk Patients
 - Pseudoexfoliation
 - Marfans
 - Trauma
- Unrecognized zonular dehiscence
- Unrecognized tear in posterior capsule
- Treatment
 - Repositioning or IOL exchange

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Iritis: But why won't it just go away!



Acute Iritis

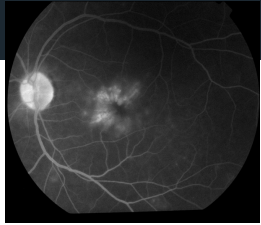
Persistent iritis or recurrences of iritis/uveitis require a closer look at possible systemic issues

Blood work should be done

- CBC (WBC)
- ACE (sarcoidosis)
- ANA (autoimmune/SLE/JRA)
- ELISA (Lyme disease)
- ESR (elevated = inflammatory activity)
- HLA- B2& (ankylosing spondylitis, Reiters, IBD, psoriatic arthritis, RA)
- Consider chest x-ray and PPD (TB)
- FTA-ABS (syphilis)

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Cystoid Macular Edema



CME is the most frequent cause of visual decline following uncomplicated cataract surgery

Late on-set (4 to 6 weeks post-operatively) ¹


Estimated to occur in 12% of low-risk cataract cases²

CME development is due in part to prostaglandin-mediated breach of blood-retinal barrier³

1. Samiy N, Foster CS. The role of nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drugs in ocular inflammation. *Int Ophthalmol Clin.* 1996;36(1):195-206. 2. McColgin AZ, Raizman MB. Efficacy of topical Voltaren in reducing the incidence of post operative cystoid macular edema. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 1999; 40 S289. 3. Mishima H, Masuda K, et al. The putative role of prostaglandins in cystoid macular edema. *Prog Clin Res* 1989;31:251-264.

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Incidence of PVD After CE



Purpose: To report the incidence of posterior vitreous detachment after uneventful state-of-the-art small-incision phacoemulsification with implantation of a posterior chamber intraocular lens

188 eyes of 188 patients

Pre-op:

- 69.1% had PVD / 30.9% no PVD

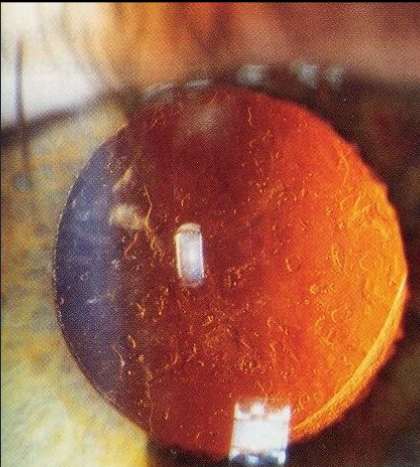
Post-op:

- 20.7% developed in one week
- 31% at one month
- 6.9% at one year
- 41.4% no PVD

Mirshahi et al. Incidence of posterior vitreous detachment after cataract surgery. *J Cataract Refract Surg.* 2009 Jun;35(6):987-91

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Posterior Capsule Fibrosis



Proliferation of equatorial lens epithelium along post capsule

Incidence 10-25%

Treatment- Yag Capsulotomy

Complications - Iritis / IOP spikes / RD / CME

SCHAUMBERG D. A. et. al. A systematic overview of the incidence of posterior capsule opacification. *Ophthalmology (Rochester, MN)* Y. 1998, vol. 105, No. 7, pages 1213-1221

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Case #2 Twisted Toric

41 YOA white Male s/p TORIC PCIOL w/ Lensar OD
 Week 1 (02/11/21) OD
 DVA 20/80
 MRX -0.50 +1.50 x055 20/20
 Cornea clear, rare cell in AC
 Dilated, lens marks @100-110 degrees (placed @95 degrees during sx)
 Surgeon consulted, continue medications as directed but want to wait till fully healed before determine if further treatment necessary.

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2 weeks later

DVA OD 20/80
 MRX -0.75 +2.00 x 055 20/20
 Cornea clear, rare cell in AC
 Dilated, lens marks @125 degrees
 To the operating room we go, rotation of the TORIC IOL with a capsular tension ring

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PATIENT LABEL
 DATE OF SURGERY: _____ IOL LABEL
 PREOPERATIVE DIAGNOSIS: _____ Cataract Left / Right eye
 POSTOPERATIVE DIAGNOSIS: _____ Cataract Left / Right eye

PROCEDURES: Phacoemulsification and insertion of Intraocular lens Left / Right eye
 ANESTHESIA: Topical with Monitored Anesthesia Care

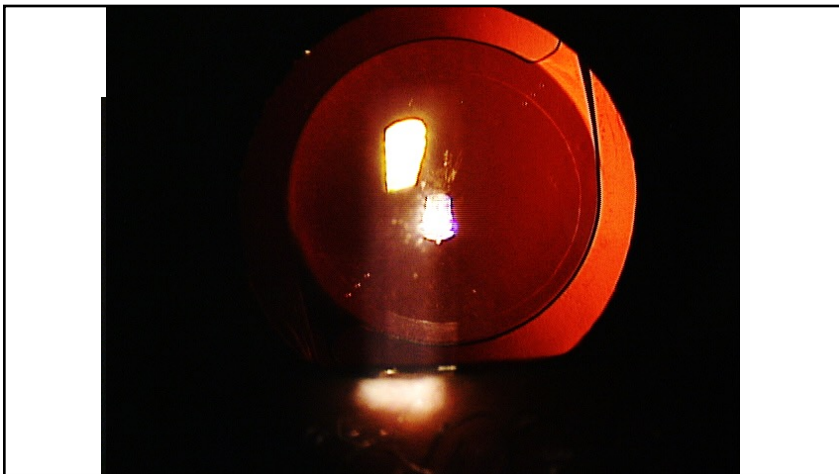
SURGEON: Elizabeth Yeu, M.D. ASSISTANT: _____ (S) NA
SPECIMENS: _____ () NO (S) NA BLOOD LOSS _____ (S) N/A
 COMPLICATIONS: None.

Toric IOL axis of alignment: 2149°
 SN: 396
 BAUSCH+L
 SE+21.0 D

- Crossed Cyl effect
- +sphere - double the astigmatism
- ie. +100-200x130
- Can dilate if suspicious
- Posterior corneal astigmatism
- IOL rotation
- High Myopes increased risk

What to Look for After Toric IOL Surgery?


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Corneal Crosslinking

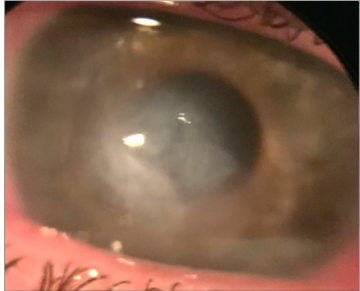
- UV light and photosensitizer to strengthen chemical bonds in the cornea
- Oxidative deamination reaction with ends chains of collagen
- FDA Approved in the US 2016
- Epi-off
- Epi-On under investigation, new formula for riboflavin submitted to FDA 2024
- Indicated to help slow progression of:
 - Keratoconus
 - PMD
 - Terrien Marginal Degeneration
 - Post-refractive surgery ectasia



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Contraindications

- Corneal thickness <400um (epi off)
- Prior herpetic infection
- Concurrent infection
- Severe corneal scarring or opacification
- History of poor epithelial wound healing
- Severe ocular surface disease
- Autoimmune disorders



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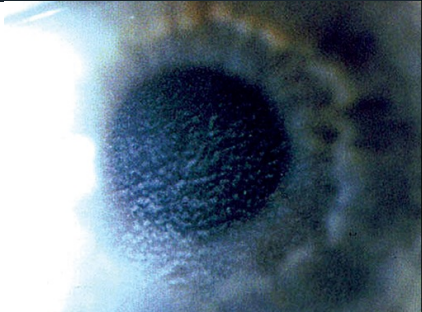
What to Expect With CXL

<p>Epi-On</p> <p>Day 1 and Week 1 PEE and slight haze, possible heaped central epi</p> <p>Month 1 Steepening of max K value on topography</p> <p>Month 3 Flattening of max K</p> <p>Month 6 ¾ of flattening of max K at this time</p> <p>1 year Stabilization</p>	<p>Epi-off</p> <p>Day 1 Epithelial defect with THBL in place</p> <p>Week 1 Re-epithelialization of cornea, PEE and slight haze, possible heaped central epi</p> <p>Month 1 Steepening of max K value on topography</p> <p>Month 3 Flattening of max K</p> <p>Month 6 ¾ of flattening of max K at this time</p> <p>1 year Stabilization</p>
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CXL Complications

- Endothelial cell damage
 <400um thickness
- Persistent epithelial defects (epi off)
 Mechanical, CL preservatives, topical medication
- Haze
- Scarring
- Infectious keratitis
 Fungi, bacteria, HSV,
 Acanthamoeba
- HSV vs UV light



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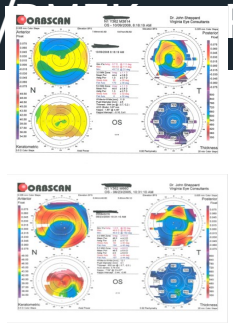
Long-term maintenance

- Close monitoring immediately after CXL
 - Every 3 months with pachymetry, MRX and corneal topography
 - Then decrease to yearly to monitor for any progression
- Counseling patient that mechanical rubbing of the eye can cause it to progress
 - Treat allergies
 - Treat DED
 - Treat Blepharitis/MGD

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Advantages of DSEK/ PK

- Sutures
- Visual recovery
- Astigmatism / ametropia
- Epithelial complications
- Corneal allograft rejection
- Wound strength
- Globe stability
- Length of surgery
- Intraoperative complications
- Post op visits



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DSEK, PK Yield Similar Graft Survival

Price et al. Ophthalmology. 2011;118(4):725-729

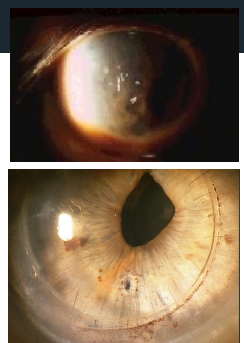
- Retrospective, interventional case series
- DSEK graft survival rates
 - 95% for Fuchs
 - 76% for PBK/ABK
- PK graft survival rates
 - 93% for Fuchs
 - 73% for PBK/ABK
- Endothelial cell loss at 5 years
 - 53% in DSEK
 - 70% in PK

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Other Indications

most common indication for keratoplasty in the U.S., comprising 40.2% of cases

- Fuchs' dystrophy most common United States in 2014 (15,013, 21.5%)
- Post-cataract surgery edema being second (8,529, 12.2%)
- Keratoconus (6,981, 10.1%)
- repeat transplants (6,811, 9.8%)



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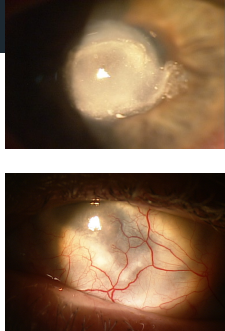
Corneal Transplant Indications / Contraindications

Indications

- Deep scarring
- Endothelial pathology
- Perforation
- Disease corneas

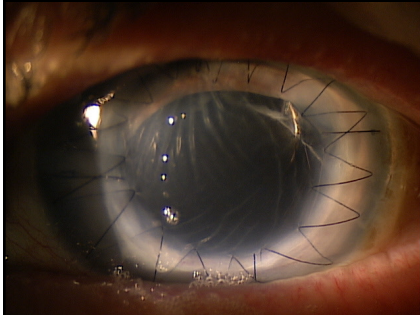
Contraindications

- Glaucoma...sort of
- Vascularization
- Previous graft failure...sort of



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What to Expect S/P Penetrating Keratoplasty



Day 1

- Moderate to severe stromal/corneal edema
- AC 1-2+ cell and pigment
- Poor vision and pain

Week 1

- Moderate corneal edema may still be present
- Vision is improved but still moderately decreased
- AC some inflammation present (tr-1+ cell)

Month 1

- Most corneal edema should be resolved at this time
- Refraction/Pachymetry/Atlas to monitor
- AC is quiet

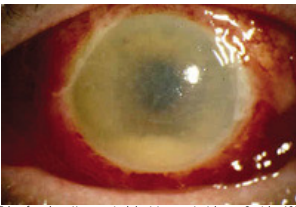
Month 6

- Stabilization
- Select suture removal to decrease induced astigmatism

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Complications of Penetrating Keratoplasty

- Intraoperative complications**
 - Damage to lens/iris from instruments
 - Irregular trephination of host
 - Poor graft centration onto host bed
 - Excessive bleeding from iris and wound edge
 - Choroidal hemorrhage and effusion
 - Iris incarceration in the wound
 - Damage to donor tissue during handling
- Immediate postoperative complications**
 - Wound leak- Day 1 (or Later)
 - Flat chamber/iris incarceration in wound- Day 1 (or later)
 - Primary donor failure- within 2 weeks
 - Persistent epithelial defect 5-7 days
 - Endophthalmitis- 5-7 days

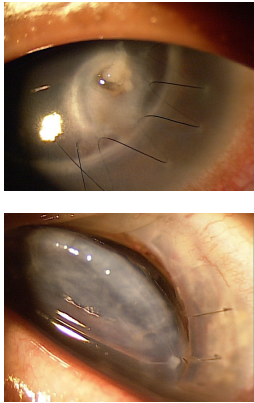


Taken from <http://www.retinalphysician.com/article.aspx?article=100059>

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Long Term complications

- Glaucoma
- Microbial keratitis
- Suture-related problems
 - Ulcer at loose or broken suture sites
 - Endophthalmitis
- Astigmatism
- Wound dehiscence
- Immunologic graft rejection
- Late endothelial failure
- Graft failure



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Long-term maintenance

- Long term topical steroid to decrease rejection rate
 - Usually 1gtt QD
- Monitor routinely to ensure no signs of rejection
- Control OSD
- Some patients may require oral antivirals if corneal transplant is related to scarring from prior HSV
 - Concern for Neurotrophic Keratitis
- Repeat PK may be needed after approximately 20 years

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Endothelial Keratoplasty (DSEK)

Sutureless transplant of the posterior cornea

Replaces diseased portion of cornea with donor graft

Donor tissue obtained by

- Manual dissection
- Microkeratome dissection
- Femtosecond laser

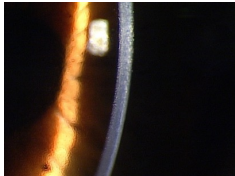


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DSEK/DSAEK Exclusion Criteria

Exclusion

- Corneal scarring
- Aphakic
- Iris loss / atrophy

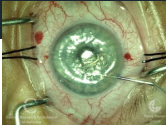


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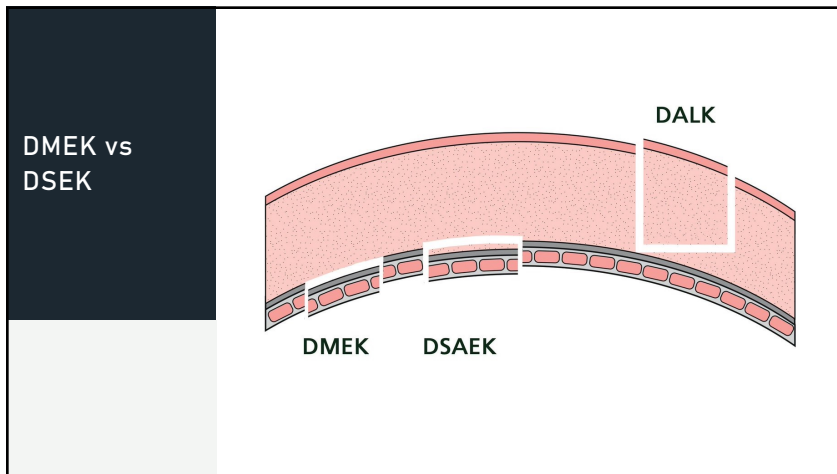
DMEK

Part of Descemet's membrane and endothelium only

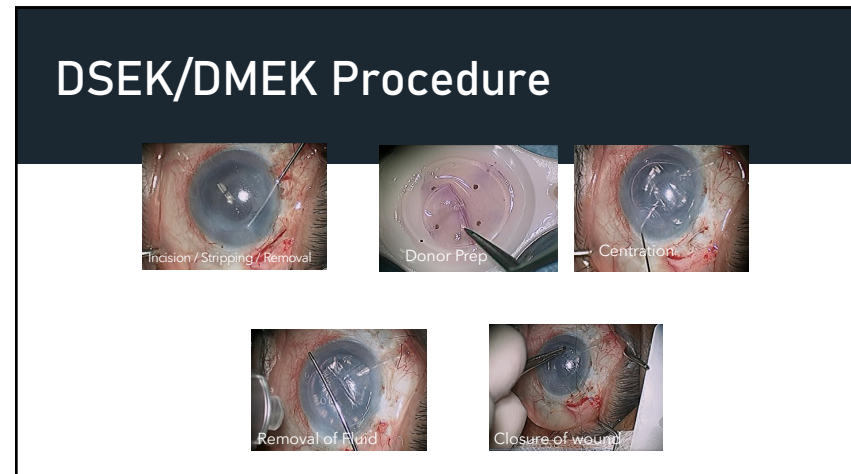
- Better optical outcome of 20/25 or 20/20
- Difficult to manipulate
- Early graft dislocation risk
- Decreased risk of rejection



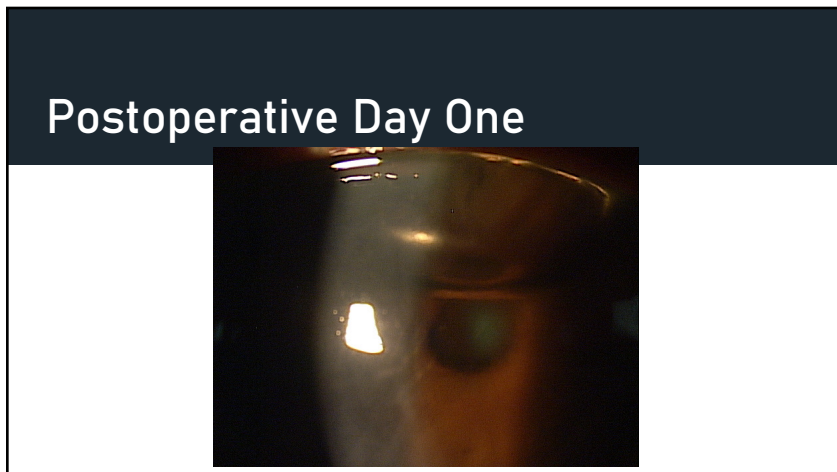
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DSEK Average Visual Recovery

- 1 Day: 20/400
- 1 Week: 20/70
- 1 Month: 20/40
- 3 Months: 20/30
- 6 Months: 20/25
- 1 Year: 20/25-20/20

DSEK has been reported to have a hyperopic shift of around +1.00, due to the shape of the donor tissue.

<http://www.disek-dsek.com/dsekprocedure.htm>

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DMEK Visual Recovery

- 3 months: 63% with vision \geq 20/25 and 26% \geq 20/20
- 6 months: 79–94% with BCVA \geq 20/40 and 22–47% \geq 20/20.
- Multiple studies have reported that DMEK causes a mild hyperopic shift of $<$ +0.50 D after 6–12 months
- Postoperative refraction stabilizes at 3 months with no significant spherical equivalent change between 3 and 6 months postoperatively.
- Endothelial cell loss estimates following DMEK vary widely, from 32–40% at 3 months to 36–40% at 6 months. At 1 year, studies have reported EC loss of around 19–36% at 1 year.

5-year EC loss of 39% in DMEK (28 eyes) vs previous reports of DSEK (53%) vs PKP (70%) performed for similar indications

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Visual Advantages

Guerra et al.

Best corrected visual acuity in a DMEK group at 1 year of 20/24 compared to 20/32 in a DSAEK group

85% reported a better quality of vision in the DMEK eye

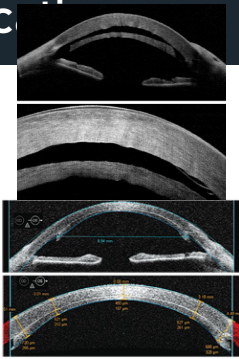
Endothelial cell loss at 1 year was 31% in DMEK eyes and 34% in DSAEK eyes.

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DSEK/DMEK Complications

Caused by any of the following

- Graft-recipient interface
- Fragile graft tissue
- Graft location
- Glaucoma
- Infection
- CME
- Retinal detachment



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Long-term Maintenance DMEK and DSEK

- Long term topical steroid
 - Helps decrease rejection rate
 - Steroid Lotoprednol, prednisolone acetate or flouromethalone 1 gtt QD typically
- Unknown length of graft viability
 - 20 year data is positive
 - In theory surpass PK ~20 years

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2022 DMEK Vs DSEK

- DMEK and DSAEK had comparable levels of BSCVA and patient satisfaction
- DMEK eyes reached their BSCVA sooner
- DSAEK eyes improved over a longer time frame
- Greater number of patients had 20/25 and 20/20 vision in the DMEK group

Long-term Outcomes in Fellow Eyes Comparing DSAEK and DMEK for Treatment of Fuchs Corneal Dystrophy

Robert W. Weisenthal¹, Han Y. Yin², Allison R. Jarstad³, Dongliang Wang³, David D. Verdier⁴

Affiliations + expand
PMID: 34157270 DOI: 10.1016/j.ajp.2021.06.013

Abstract

Purpose: To compare the long-term results of Descemet's stripping automated endothelial keratoplasty (DSAEK) and Descemet's membrane endothelial keratoplasty (DMEK) in fellow eyes for treatment of Fuchs endothelial corneal dystrophy.

Methods: This study is a 2-centered, retrospective case series of 64 patients (128 eyes) with DSAEK followed by DMEK. The main outcomes measured were best spectacle-corrected visual acuity (BSCVA) and duration of time to achieve BSCVA as well as eye preference.

Results: Preoperative median logarithm of the minimum angle of resolution (logMAR) BSCVA was similar in eyes receiving DMEK 0.36 ± 0.26 and DSAEK 0.42 ± 0.34 ($P = .266$). The average follow-up time needed for the DMEK eyes to achieve BSCVA was faster than that of DSAEK (277 days vs 490 days, $P = .0014$). With long-term follow-up, the BSCVA of the DMEK eyes (0.09 ± 0.10 logMAR)

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DMEK Pulling ahead

In 2023 DMEK became the most common keratoplasty procedure in the United States

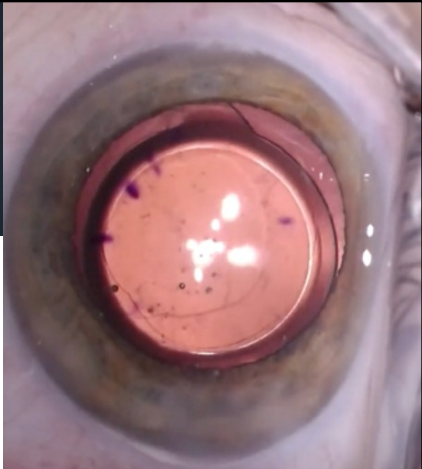
DMEK 17,116 cases
Followed by DSAEK (16,207 cases)
PK (14,486 cases).

In 2023 DMEK became the most common keratoplasty procedure in the United States with 17,116 cases, followed by DSAEK (16,207 cases) and PK (14,486 cases).

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Descemet stripping only (DSO)

- Remove a smaller area of the central unhealthy endothelium and Descemet's Membrane
- Do not implant any donor tissue
- Wait to see if the surrounding endothelial cells migrate from the periphery to recover the central area.



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DSO: 5 year outcomes

- Of the 9/10 eyes that maintained clear corneas, BCVA of at least 20/30 at 5 years post-operatively
- At 6 years, 7/8 eyes had a VA better than 20/40
- 10/13 eyes (77%) responded and maintained clear central corneas for at least 5 years. Patients with failed DSO can achieve corneal clearance and good vision with subsequent EK.

CORNEA
The Journal of Cornea and External Disease

Issues Collections For Authors Journal Info

CLINICAL SCIENCE

Descemet Stripping Only: Long-Term Outcomes

Harkin, Farida; Tsao MD¹; Nagai, Ameet; Kaur BS¹; Dhaliwal, Deepinder; Kaur MD, LLC²

Author Information

Cornea 43(8):p 994-996, August 2024. | DOI: 10.1097/ICO.0000000000003421

BUY

Abstract

Purpose: Descemet stripping only (DSO) is a relatively novel treatment for Fuchs endothelial dystrophy (FED). In this procedure, a central area of Descemet membrane is removed without the insertion of donor tissue. Evaluation of long-term outcomes after DSO is imperative to establish the validity of this procedure and its role in the management of Fuchs endothelial dystrophy. Published outcomes are promising. This study evaluates the 5- and 6-year outcomes of patients with

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RHO KINASE INHIBITOR?

INVITED SUBMISSION

OPEN

A Close Look at the Clinical Efficacy of Rho-Associated Protein Kinase Inhibitor Eye Drops for Fuchs Endothelial Corneal Dystrophy

Shigeru Kinoshita, MD, PhD, Kathryn A. Colby, MD, PhD,† and Friedrich E. Kruse, MD, PhD‡*

- "Studies have shown that ROCK inhibitor Y-27632 promotes cell adhesion, cell proliferation, and antiapoptotic effects in cultured monkey and human CECs.^{5,6} Furthermore, the CEC layer can now be consistently reconstructed using regenerative medicine, that is, the administration of cultured human CECs combined with ROCK inhibitor Y-27632 into the anterior chamber for the treatment of patients afflicted with bullous keratopathy. Thus, there is now a substantial amount of conceptual evidence to support the effectiveness of using ROCK inhibitors for the treatment of specific corneal endothelial diseases and for patients afflicted with CEC injury and loss."

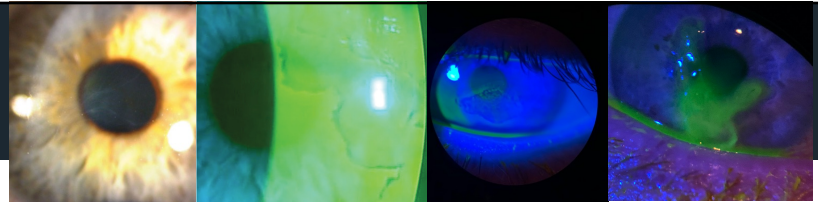
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ABMD/EBMD

- Abnormal production of epithelial basement membrane
- Extends to epithelium
- Causes multiple basement membrane layers
- Trapped epithelial cells form Cogan microcysts
- Can lead to recurrent corneal erosions
- Degenerative
 - Occasionally autosomal dominant
 - Transforming growth factor beta-induced gene (TGFB1) on chromosome 5q31



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Symptoms

- Commonly asymptomatic
- Recurrent corneal erosions
- Pain upon waking
- Eyelids sticking to eyeball
- Distortion to vision
 - Monocular shadows or diplopia
- Increased halos or glare

Treatment

- Lubrication
- Hypertonic drops and ointment
- Pressure patching
- Topical corticosteroids
- Oral doxycycline
- Bandage soft contact lens
- Anterior stromal micropuncture
- Epithelial debridement or Lam-K
 - With diamond burr or PTK

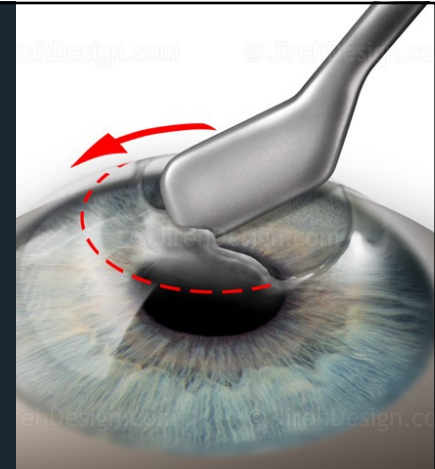
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Lamellar keratoplasty

Corneal epithelium is removed down to Bowman's layer

Can be performed in slit lamp or operating room using Weck-cel sponge or scarifier blade, and cleaned up with diamond burr

After removal surface is polished with cellulose sponge, antibiotics, and THBL placed



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Lam-K Long Term Treatment

- After lam K
 - Maintain THBL for 3 months
 - Oral Doxycycline
 - Topical Antibiotics
 - Topical Steroids
 - Vitamin C
 - ASED/PRP?
 - Amniotic Membrane
- Control of ocular surface disease
- Indications for LamK:
 - ABMD
 - Salzmanns nodular degeneration
 - Band Keratopathy
 - RCE
 - Corneal scars

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Questions?

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