

## Surgical Mythbusters: Answers to Your Common and Not So Common Questions COPE#93620-PO

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1

Disclosures - Walter O. Whitley, OD, MBA, FAAO has received consulting fees, honorarium or research funding from:

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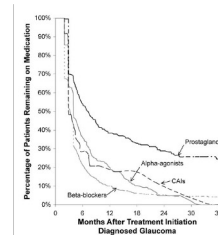
All financial relationships have been mitigated.

2



### Mythbuster #1 First Line Therapy Is Always A Drop?

3



More than **90%** of patients are nonadherent to their ocular medication dosing regimens, and nearly **50%** discontinue taking their medications before 6 months:

Neuhoff CE. Persistence and adherence with topical glaucoma therapy. Ann Ophthalmol. 2002;44:108-114.



4

### Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty Versus Medical Therapy as Initial Treatment of Glaucoma: A Prospective, Randomized Trial

L. Jay Katz, MD,\* William C. Steinmann, MD,† Azad Kohir, MD,‡ Jeanne Molneaux, COA,\* Sheryl S. Wizen, COA,\* and George Marcelino, PhD§ the SLT Med Study Group  
*J Glaucoma* • Volume 21, Number 7, September 2012

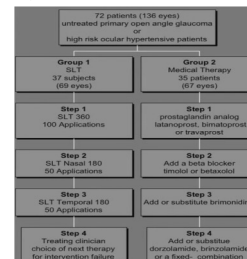
#### • SLT Med Study (2012)

- Dr. Katz @ Wills Eye in Philadelphia
- J Glaucoma* 2012;21:460-468

- SLT (100 applications over 360 degrees of TM) vs. prostaglandin analog
- Primary outcome -> IOP
- Secondary outcome -> # of treatment steps

5

### SLT Med Study Treatment Arms



6

## SLT vs. Prostaglandins

### • SLT Med Study (2012)

#### Results:

1. IOP reduction:
  - SLT – 25.7% IOP reduction
    - IOP reduced from 24.5 to 18.2 (6.3 mmHg reduction)
  - Prostaglandin – 28.3% IOP reduction
    - IOP reduced from 24.7 to 17.7 (7.0 mmHg reduction)
2. # of treatment steps:
  - SLT group - 11% of eyes required additional SLT
  - Prostaglandin group -> 27% of eyes required additional medication

7

LIGHT trial: 6-year results of primary selective laser trabeculoplasty versus eye drops for the treatment of glaucoma and ocular hypertension

Gus Gazzard, Evgenia Konstantakopoulou, David Garway-Heath, Mariam Adeleke, Victoria Vickerstaff, Gareth Ambler, Rachael Hunter, Catey Bunce, Neil Nathwani, Keith Barton, on behalf of the LIGHT Trial Study Group

Primary Outcome - Quality of Life at 6 years

Secondary Outcome – clinical effectiveness and safety

#### Conclusions:

No significant difference in QOL

26.8% VS 19.6% progressed drops vs SLT

Trab required in 32 eyes in drops arm compared to 13 eyes in the SLT arm

69.8% of SLT Drop Free @ 6 Years

8

## Low-Energy SLT Repeated Annually: Rationale for the COAST Trial

Tony Realini, MD, MPH, Gus Gazzard, MD, Mark Latina, MD, Michael Kass, MD

Newly diagnosed POAG treated with:

1. ALT 360 x 1
2. Standard SLT 360 as needed
3. Low-energy SLT 360 repeated annually

#### 10-year Results

##### Medication Free Rates

1. ALT – 22.6%
2. Standard SLT -25.0%
3. Low-energy SLT – 58.3%

#### 10-year Results

##### Median Times to Treatment

1. ALT – 2.8 years
2. Standard SLT -3.2 years
3. Low-energy SLT – 6.2 years

9

## Automated Direct Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty: First Prospective Clinical Trial

Mordechai Goldenfeld<sup>1</sup>, Michael Belkin<sup>2</sup>, Masha Dobkin-Bekman<sup>3</sup>, Zachary Sacks<sup>1</sup>, Sharon Blum Meirovitch<sup>1</sup>, Noa Geffen<sup>4,5</sup>, Ari Leshno<sup>1,4</sup>, and Alon Skaat<sup>1,4</sup>



**Purpose:** Direct selective laser trabeculoplasty (DSL) is a rapid, noncontact automated procedure performed directly through the limbus without gonioscopy. In this first nonrandomized clinical trial we assessed its safety and ability to reduce intraocular pressure (IOP).

**Methods:** Fifteen patients (15 eyes: 10 with open-angle glaucoma [OAG], 4 with ocular hypertension, and 1 with pseudophakic glaucoma), naive or after medication washout, with an IOP  $\geq 22$  mm Hg, underwent DSLT by irradiation with 100 or 120 sequential noncontact 532-nm, Q-switched laser shots (0.8–1.4 mJ) automatically applied during 1.5 or 2.3 seconds on the limbus, guided by image analysis and eye tracking. Results were assessed at 1 and 3 hours, 1 day, 1 week, and 1, 3, and 6 months.

**Results:** The mean  $\pm$  standard deviation baseline IOP (mm Hg) in all eyes was  $26.7 \pm 2.3$ . At 1, 3, and 6 months, this value was significantly reduced to  $21.7 \pm 4.2$  (by 18.1%), to  $20.8 \pm 2.5$  (by 21.4%), and to  $21.5 \pm 4.1$  (by 18.8%), respectively, in six patients treated with 1.4 mJ/shot; the mean IOP at 6 months decreased from  $26.7 \pm 3.2$  to  $19.3 \pm 2.0$  (27.1%,  $P = 0.03$ ). There was a significant reduction in hypotensive medications (from  $1.6 \pm 1.0$  to  $0.4 \pm 0.7$ ,  $P = 0.03$ ). No serious adverse events occurred.

**Conclusions:** Automated DSL appears to be an effective and safe noncontact, rapid modality for reducing IOP in patients with OAG. Higher energy usage led to better results.

10

#### Iridocorneal Angle

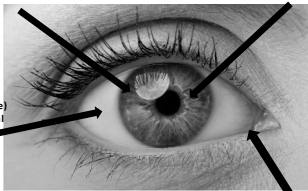
1. Travoprost Intraocular Implant (Glaukos)

#### Ocular Surface Devices

1. Contact Lenses
2. Microdose latanoprost (EyeNovia)
3. Iontophoresis

#### Injectable Systems

1. Bimatoprost SR (Abbvie)
2. Travoprost Intracamer Implant (OTX)
3. Travoprost Extended Release Implant (Aerie)



#### Punctal Plug Devices

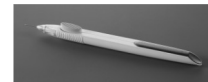
1. Latanoprost and Travoprost punctal plug delivery system (Mati)

11

## Bimatoprost SR (Abbvie)

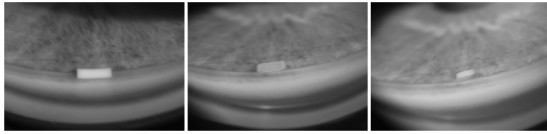
(10-microgram bimatoprost sustained-release implant)

- Biodegradable bimatoprost sustained-release implant
- FDA-approved and indicated to reduce IOP in patients with open angle glaucoma or OHT
- Single intracameral administration
- Phase I/II/III Studies



12

### Bimatoprost SR (Abbvie) (10-microgram bimatoprost sustained-release implant)



13

### 24 Month Phase I/II Clinical Trial

bimatoprost pellet  
(6, 10, 15, or 20 micrograms)

topical bimatoprost 0.03%



24 months – IOP reduction  
7.5, 7.3, 7.3, 8.9 mm Hg

24 months – IOP reduction  
of 8.2 mm Hg

No Rescue or Retreatment

68% - 6 mos.

40% - 12 mos.

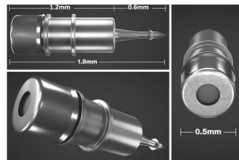
28% - 24 mos.

Craven ER, Walters T, Christie WC, Day DG, et al.  
24-Month Phase I/II Clinical Trial of Bimatoprost  
Sustained-Release Implant (Bimatoprost SR) in  
Glaucoma Patients. Drugs. 2020 Feb;80(2): 167-179.

14

### Travoprost intraocular implant (Glaukos)

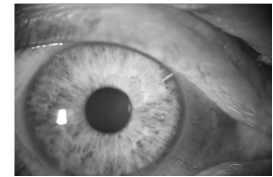
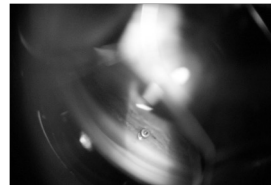
Resides in AC angle,  
anchored behind TM



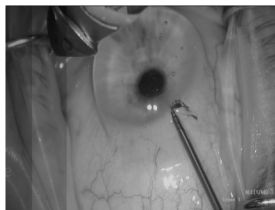
- Length: 1.8 mm
- Diameter: 0.5 mm
- Titanium
- Non-ferrous

15

### Travoprost intraocular implant (Glaukos)



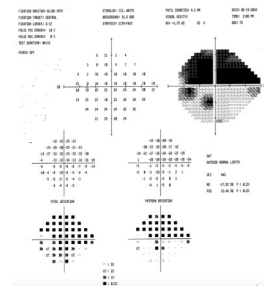
16



#### 36 Month Update

1. 70% and 68% of subjects in fast and slow-release were well-controlled on fewer or same medications as baseline.
2. Average IOP reductions were 8.3 mmHg and 8.5mmHg in the fast and slow-release arms.

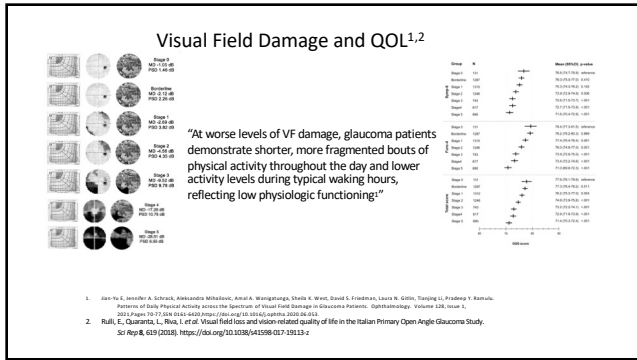
17



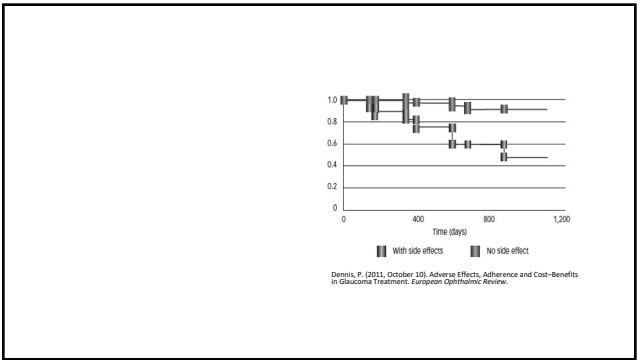
**Mythbuster #2**  
Surgical  
Intervention  
Should  
Be  
Delayed  
Or  
Serve  
As A  
Last Resort?



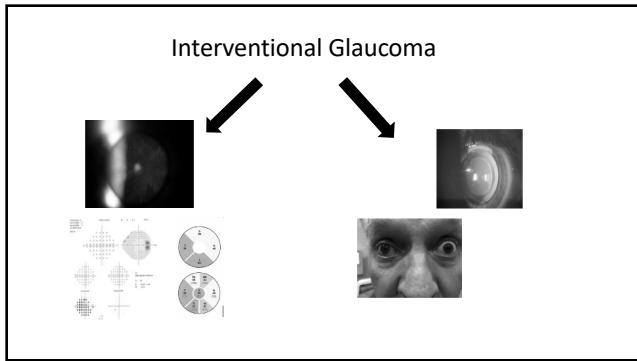
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19



20



21

### Safety Profile of MIGS

	iStent	iStent Inject	Hydus	KDB	Trabectome	GATT	TRAB360	VISCOS60	OMNI System	ABIC
IOP spike	1.8-22.2	1.06-18.6	1.9-6.45	1.0-18.2	2.06-28.9	0-18.7	1.2	0.9-1.1	3.7	0-22.2
Hyphaema	1.85-11.4	0-5	1.92-6.45	0-34.9	4.72-95	0.97-38	50.6	1-13.1	3.7	1.9-20
Corneal oedema	2.1-8.97	0-10	0-3.23	1.0-15.5	0	0	6.2	0	4.9	0
Bleb needling	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Device obstruction	0-13.2	0-6.2	0-6.2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SCF	1.8-2.27	0	0	0	1.47	0	0	1	0	0

1. Vinod K, Gedde SJ. Safety profile of minimally invasive glaucoma surgery. *Curr Opin Ophthalmol*. 2021 Mar 1;32(2):160-168. doi: 10.1097/COO.0000000000000731. PMID: 33315736.

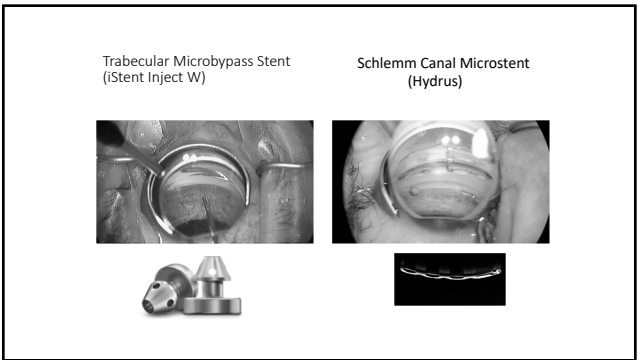
2. Rowson, A.C.; Hogarty, D.T.; Maher, D.; Liu, L. Minimally Invasive Glaucoma Surgery: Safety of Individual Devices. *J. Clin. Med.* **2022**, *11*, 6833. <https://doi.org/10.3390/jcm11226833>

22

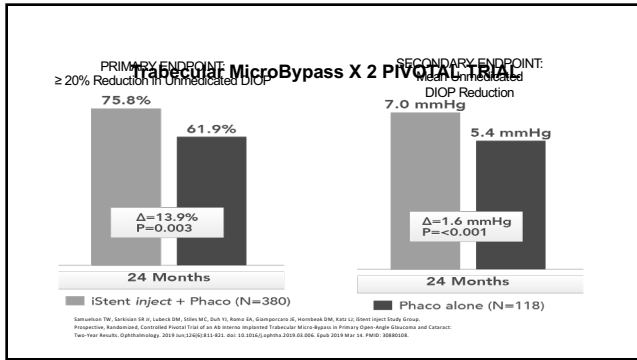
### Surgical Options for Glaucoma: Schlemm's Canal/TM Procedures

	Stents	SC Dilation	TM Cutting
Fibrosis Risk	(-)	(+)/(+)	(+)(+)
Hyphema	(-)	(+)/(+)	(+)(+)
PAS Risk	(-)	(-)	(+)
IOP Lowering	(+)	(+)	(+)(+)
Data	(+)(+)(+)	(+)/(+)	(+)(+)

23



24



25

**HORIZON Trial – 5 Year**

	Stent + Cataract (n=369)	Cataract Only (n=187)
Change in diurnal IOP (mean)	-8.3 mm HG (+/-3.8)	-6.5 mm HG (+/-4.0)
60 months medication free	66%	46%
60 months mean IOP (mm Hg)	16.6 (+/-3.2)	17.6 (+/-3.6)
1 preoperative med	52.6%	54%
2 to 4 preoperative med	47.4%	46%

Ahmed IH, De Francesco T, Zhou D, McCabe C, Flowers A, Gassard G, Samuelson TW, Singh N. HORIZON Investigators. Long-term outcomes from the HORIZON randomized trial for a Schlemm's canal microstent in combination cataract and glaucoma surgery. *Ophthalmology*. 2022 Feb 23;130(3):442-450. doi: 10.1016/j.ophtha.2021.09.004.

26

**Trabecular MicroBypass X 2 PIVOTAL TRIAL<sup>1</sup>**

Conclusions: The overall safety profile of the treatment group was favorable and similar to that in the control group throughout the 2-year follow-up.

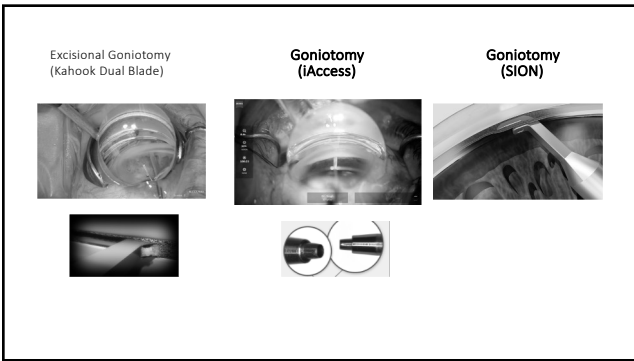
**HORIZON Trial – 5 Year<sup>2</sup>**

Conclusions: The addition of a Schlemm's canal microstent in conjunction with CS was safe, resulted in lowered IOP and medication use, and reduced the need for postoperative incisional glaucoma filtration surgery compared with CS after 5 years. Long-term presence of the implant did not affect the corneal endothelium adversely.

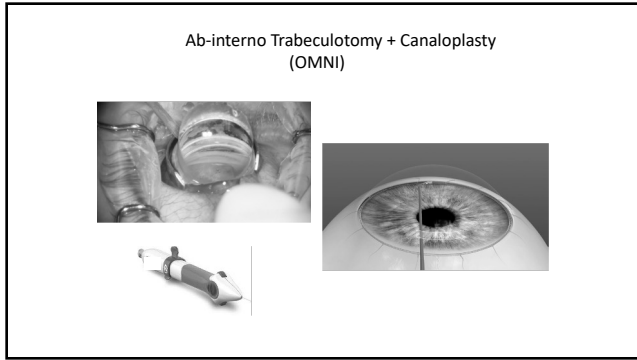
1. Samuelson TW, Searles DR, Luboff DM, Sills MC, Suh YL, Davis EA, Stamatopoulos EL, Harshbarger DM, Katz LJ. Glaucoma Study Group. Prospective, Randomized, Controlled Pivotal Trial of an Ab Interno Implanted Trabecular MicroBypass in Primary Open-Angle Glaucoma and Cataract: Two-Year Results. *Ophthalmology*. 2018;125(2):611-621. doi: 10.1016/j.ophtha.2018.03.006. Epub 2018 Mar 14. PMID: 29880208

2. Ahmed IH, De Francesco T, Zhou D, McCabe C, Flowers A, Gassard G, Samuelson TW, Singh N. HORIZON Investigators. Long-term outcomes from the HORIZON randomized trial for a Schlemm's canal microstent in combination cataract and glaucoma surgery. *Ophthalmology*. 2022 Feb 23;130(3):442-450. doi: 10.1016/j.ophtha.2021.09.004.

27



28



29

**Mythbuster #3**

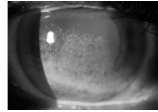
**Toric IOLs Don't Always Work**

30

## Cataract Patients - Corneal Staining

N = 136 patients (272 eyes)

- 60% Never experience DES symptoms
- Positive Corneal Staining: 209 eyes (76.8%)
- Central Corneal Staining: 136 eyes (50%)



Trattler WB, Majumdar PA, Donnerfeld ED, McDonald MB, Stonecipher KG, Goldberg DF. The Prospective Health Assessment of Cataract Patients' Ocular Surface (PHACOS) study: the effect of dry eye. Clin Ophthalmol. 2017 Aug 7;11:1423-1430.

31

## The Near Triad:

Accommodation, convergence, miosis and excyclotorsion

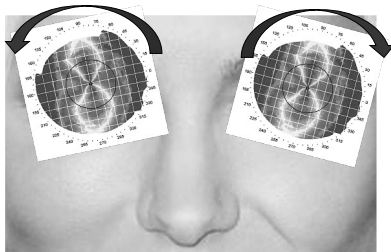


Refs:

- Read SA, Buehren T, Collins MJ. Influence of accommodation on the anterior and posterior cornea. J Cataract Refract Surg. 2007 Nov;33(11):1877-85.
- Buehren T, Collins MJ, Loughridge J, et al. Corneal topography and accommodation. Cornea 2003; 22:311-316
- Allen MJ, Carter JH. The torsion component of the near reflex; a photographic study of the non-moving eye in unilateral convergence. Am J Optom Arch Am Acad Optom 1967; 44:343-349
- Bannan RE. Near point binocular problems astigmatism and cyclophoria. Ophthalmic Opt 1971; 11:158-168

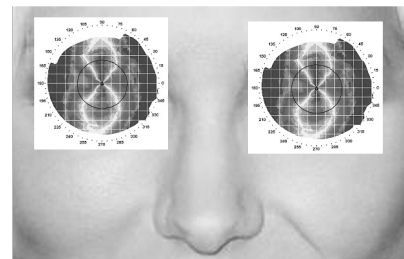
32

## Excyclotorsion Can Occur With Accommodation



33

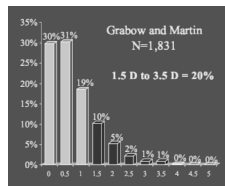
## Better



34

## Incidence of Pre-op Astigmatism in Cataract Patients

- 70% of patients have  $\geq 0.5$  D of pre-op astigmatism

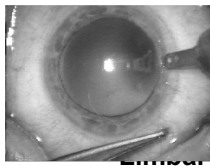


35

## Astigmatism About 1.0 D or Less...

(about 80% of pts)

36

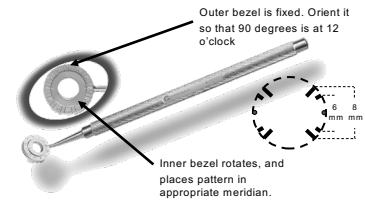


**Steven J. Dell, M.D.**  
Austin, Texas

37

## Dell LRI Marker

Rhein Medical



38

## Toric IOL Conventional Teaching

- Torics now available in monofocal, MF, EDOF, and accommodating
- For every 1° the toric IOL is off the target axis, 3.3% of the desired astigmatic effect is lost
- 10 degrees off loses 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the effect
- From a practical standpoint, this is not really true clinically

39

## Place Correctly

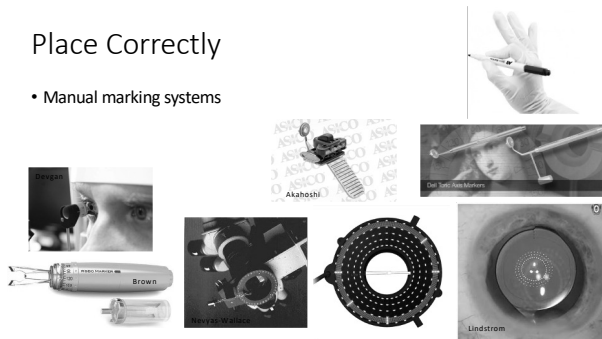
- Intra-op aberrometry: ORA



40

## Place Correctly

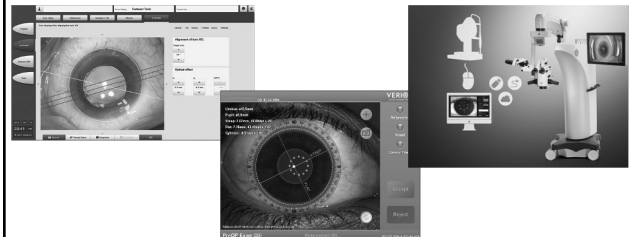
- Manual marking systems



41

## Place Correctly

- Image guidance systems: Callisto, Verion, Leica IOL Compass



42

## ZEISS Callisto



43

## ZEISS Callisto System



ZEISS IOLMaster family



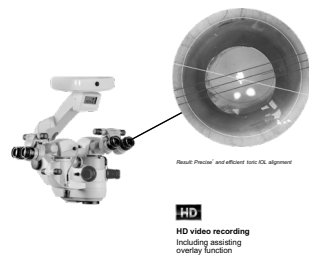
ZEISS CALLISTO



ZEISS OPMI Lumera Scope

44

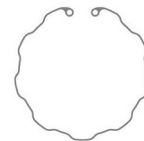
Visualization  
Skip changing your visual field of reference and stay focused



45

## Rotation Prevention

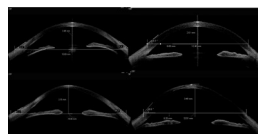
- Rhexis smaller than optic, 360 overlap
- Henderson CTR in all higher risk
  - AL over 24 or large ant seg
  - Vertically oriented
  - One failure (27mm eye at 90 degrees)
- Always remove OVD from behind IOL
- Leave eye soft
- No eye rubbing x 2wks
- Occasionally, in higher risk, consider leaving a bit of cortex where haptic will engage bag



46

## Rotation Risk in Longer Eyes

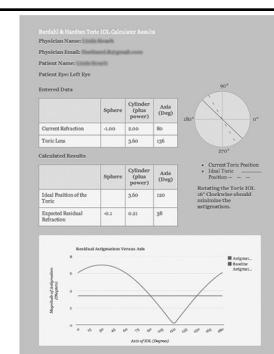
- Larger bag: less robust friction fit
- Larger ACD: rhexis size errors, incomplete OVD removal
- Low power IOLs: thinner
- Weak zonules more common, trampolining of L.I.D.
- Tend to have more astig in 1<sup>st</sup> place



47

## Astigmatismfix.com

- Where?
  - OR
  - Minor room
  - SL
- When?
  - Wait a few weeks
- What?
  - Just reposition?
  - CTR?
  - ROC?
  - Suture haptic to CTR



48



## Scope of the Problem?

49

## Rotation Rate

Ophthalmology, 2016 Feb;123(2):275-86. doi: 10.1016/j.ophtha.2015.10.002. Epub 2015 Nov 18.  
**Toric Intraocular Lenses in the Correction of Astigmatism During Cataract Surgery: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis.**  
Kessel L<sup>1</sup>, Andresen J<sup>2</sup>, Tendal B<sup>3</sup>, Ernaas D<sup>4</sup>, Flesner P<sup>5</sup>, Hjortdal J<sup>6</sup>.

- 1.1% (6/554) required repositioning

J Cataract Refract Surg, 2014 Oct;40(10):1654-60. doi: 10.1016/j.jcrs.2014.01.044. Epub 2014 Aug 20.  
**Long-term clinical outcomes of toric intraocular lens implantation in cataract cases with preexisting astigmatism.**

Miyake T<sup>1</sup>, Kamiki K<sup>2</sup>, Amano R<sup>2</sup>, Iida Y<sup>2</sup>, Tsunehiro S<sup>2</sup>, Shimizu K<sup>2</sup>.

- 1.6% (6/378) rotated over 20 degrees (Acrysof Toric)
  - All 6, AL > 25mm, vertical IOL

50

## Conclusions

- Biometry advances have made sphere power calcs very good
- Focus has shifted to minimizing astigmatic errors
- Toric usage is increasing in our practice, flat nationally
- One rotation is too many
- Risk factors are identifiable
- Special precautions should be used in higher risk eyes

51

## Mythbuster #4

Epiphora is only caused by DED/MGD

52

- Chronic vs Acute
- Dry eye related?
- But what about MGD?

53

## Potential Contributing Risk Factors and Causes

- NLD obstruction
- KCS/MGD
- Small anatomy of NLD/Puncta/Punctal Stenosis
- Lid laxity/Floppy lids
- Conjunctivochalasis
- Ectropion/Entropion
- Trichiasis
- TED
- Trauma

54

## Nasolacrimal Duct Obstruction

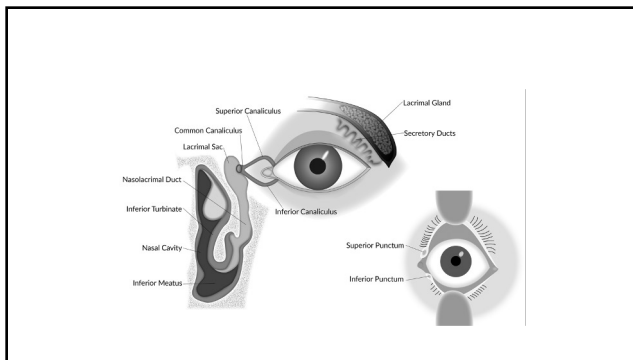
Perform Irrigation & Dilatation

- Indicated when NLD obstruction suspected
- In-office procedure
- CPT code 68801 vs 68840
- Steroid/antibiotic taper x 3 weeks
- Repeat procedure if needed
- When to refer for stent

55

## Stent

56



57

## Use of mini-monoka stents for punctal/canalicular stenosis

R N Hussain, H Kanani, T McMullan  
Correspondence to Dr R N Hussain, Department of Ophthalmology, Leicester Royal Infirmary, Infirmary Square, Leicester LE1 5WW, UK;

### Abstract

- **Background** Proximal lacrimal system stenosis may cause debilitating epiphora and recurrent ocular infections. Mini-monoka stents are primarily used in the management of canalicular lacerations. Evidence regarding their use to treat punctal/canalicular stenosis is sparse. Compared with dacryocystorhinostomy, a punctocanaliculoplasty with mini-monoka stenting is quicker, less invasive with reduced postoperative complications/recovery time.
- **Aims:** To assess the effectiveness of mini-monoka punctocanaliculoplasty for treatment of punctal/canalicular stenosis.
- **Methods:** A retrospective case note analysis was performed on 77 consecutive patients (123 eyes).
- **Results** 73% of eyes had punctal stenosis, 72% had canalicular stenosis; 46% had a combination of the above. 20% had some degree of lid laxity and 29% had nasolacrimal duct stenosis. 101 eyes (82%) had significant improvement in symptoms and were discharged without further intervention. Excluding the patients with structural comorbidity the success rate improved to 88%.
- **Conclusions** Mini-monoka punctocanaliculoplasty is an effective, safe, simple and relatively non-invasive treatment strategy for the management of epiphora secondary to punctal and/or canalicular stenosis.

<https://doi.org/10.1136/bjophth-2013-005020>

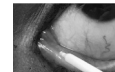
58

## Punctal Stenosis

59

## PUNCTAL PLUGS

- Still a mainstay in dry eye treatment
- When should you not use them?
- Future innovation!
- KCS Meds?



60

### 3-Snip Punctoplasty

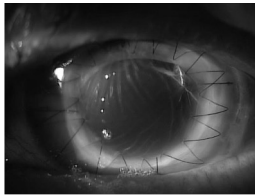
- The rectangular 3-snip procedure consists of 2 vertical incisions through the posterior wall of the punctum and vertical canaliculus (one medial and one lateral)
- Followed by a horizontal incision connecting the ends of the vertical incisions, resulting in a rectangular excision of tissue.
- In-office procedure
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vlna58Ff2jE>

61

### Mythbuster #5 Full Corneal transplant is your only Option

62

### Corneal Transplant



63

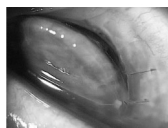
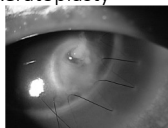
### What to expect with a PK

- 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

64

### Complications of Penetrating Keratoplasty

- Long-term complications
  - Glaucoma
  - Microbial keratitis
  - Suture-related problems
  - Wound dehiscence
  - Immunologic graft rejection
  - Late endothelial failure
  - Graft failure
- Refractive error, astigmatism



65

### Long-term maintenance

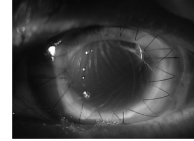
- Long term topical steroid to decrease rejection rate
- Some patients may require oral antivirals if corneal transplant is related to scarring from prior HSV
- Repeat PK may be needed after approximately 20 years

66

## Alternatives to PKP




67

- Corneal crosslinking
- CAIRS
- DALK
- K Pro

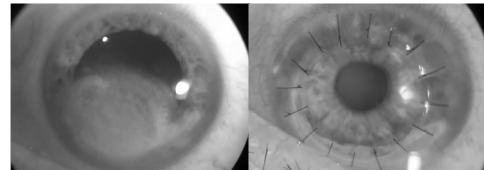


68

DALK: deep anterior  
lamellar keratoplasty

Corneal transplantation techniques:	
	1. PK: All corneal layers are transplanted.
	2. DALK: Only the superior corneal layers are transplanted.
	3. DMEK: Only the deep corneal layers are transplanted.

69



Pre/Post Example of DALK

70

## Watch Out for Keratoconus!

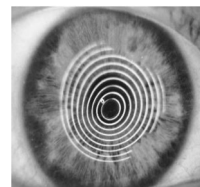
8 Potential Signs & Symptoms

**Typically** onset occurs in teenage years or early twenties.

- **Look out for warning signs in medical history**
  - History of eye rubbing
  - Family & genetic predispositions
- **Look out for visual complaints**
  - Blurred vision
  - Distortion of images
- **Look out for refractive anomalies**
  - Distortion of mires on keratometry
  - Error messages on autorefractors
  - Unsatisfactory attempts at vision correction & progressive loss of UCVA & BCVA
  - Increasing astigmatism



Irregular Placido (egg-shaped) Topography



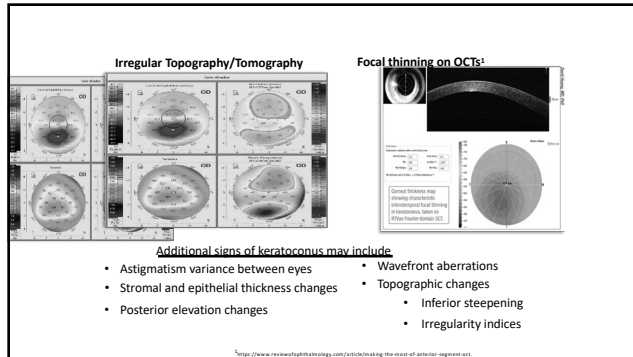
Early signs of keratoconus may include

- Skewed radial axis of astigmatism
- Asymmetric or truncated bow-tie

© 2015, National Society of Keratoconus, Survey of Ophthalmology Vol. 62, Num. 4, Jan-Feb 2016

71

72



73

## CAIRS

- Mid-peripheral intrastromal transplantation of donor cornea stromal segments
- Stand alone for non progressive cases
- Combined with CXL for progressive cases
- Reversible
- No sutures
- The volume of tissue transferred varies between 1 mm<sup>3</sup> and 6 mm<sup>3</sup> only.
- No severing of corneal nerves

74

## CAIRS- Pros

- CAIRS uses corneal tissue as the implant, rather than the INTACS medical-grade plastic.
- As a result, we can safely place it more anterior in the cornea to produce more effect.
- It integrates better with the host cornea for much less glare and a better cosmetic appearance.
- It doesn't carry the risk of extrusion which would sometimes impact INTACS.

75

## CAIRS- Cons

- The main cons are that it is donor tissue!
- There is a small risk of rejection (but it's a very small amount of cornea)
- The reported rate of rejection in the literature is so low that we're only aware of 1 case)
- It's a little more technically challenging to perform the surgery than with INTACS.

76

## What to expect: CAIRS

- Day 1
  - Moderate stromal/corneal edema
  - AC 1+ cell
  - Poor vision
- Week 1
  - MILD corneal edema may still be present
  - Vision is improved but still moderately decreased
- Month 1
  - Most corneal edema should be resolved at this time
  - Refraction/Pachymetry/Atlas to monitor
  - Topical steroids x 6 weeks

77

## Long-term maintenance

- CXL
- CLs
- Other visual rehabilitation

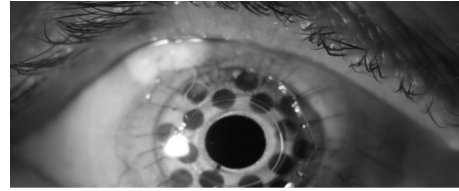
78

## 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
- Indicated to help slow progression of:
  - Keratoconus
  - PMD
  - Terrien Marginal Degeneration
  - Post-refractive surgery ectasia

79

## KPro



80

## Novel Graft Failure Tx Options

- Keratoprosthesis – “KPro”
- Restores vision by marrying mechanical central lens optic with a peripheral donor cornea
- KPro has three components which are assembled into a single unit
- A PMMA front plate with an optical stem extends through a 3 mm hole in a donor cornea and overlaps it centrally
- Titanium back plate snaps onto the optical stem and abuts the posterior side of the cornea
- K-Pro sutured into place much like a PKP
- Central optic provides for vision even if the cornea becomes cloudy or opaque.

81

## Mythbuster #6 Laser Cataract Surgery has Better Outcomes

82

## Femtosecond Laser Cataract Surgery

- Clear corneal incision and paracentesis
  - Abandoned by most, inferior to diamond incisions
- Astigmatic keratotomy
  - Abandoned by most, inferior to diamond incisions
  - Solely used as billing justification
- Lens fragmentation
  - Useful in very dense lenses, but only with good pupil dilation
  - Abandoned by most, femto usage is WAY down nationally
- Capsulotomy
  - The best usage of the laser
  - Helpful for surgeons who have difficulty making a capsulotomy

83

## Cost?



84

# JCARS

Platform	Mean Suction-On Time*	Range
Catalys	3 min 49 s	3 m 27 s, 4 m 31 s
Lensx	1 min 35 s	1 m 25 s, 1 m 42 s
Victus	3 min 42 s	3 m 24 s, 4 m 11 s

\*Based on 10 consecutive femtosecond phacoemulsification procedures.

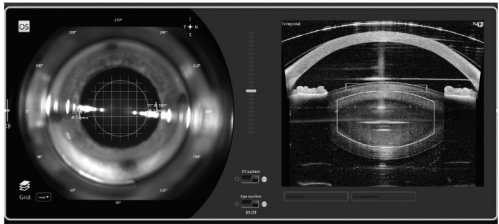
85

# Z8 – wet dock



86

# One Interface

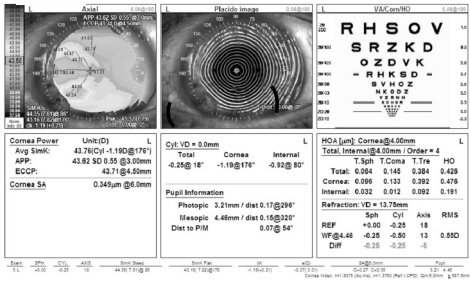


87

# 65 yo TMF with Correctly Positioned Femto Arcuates

- TMF removed due to debilitating visual distortions
- Monofocal 3 piece IOL placed in bag open capsule
- Pt claims vision is still poor, presents for a 3<sup>rd</sup> opinion.
- -0.25 - 0.50 x 049 20/20-1
- UCVA 20/25
- LVC? When?

88



89

# Mythbuster #7

## There are No Effective Treatments for Floaters

90

## So What Do You Tell Your Patients?

91

## Nutrition



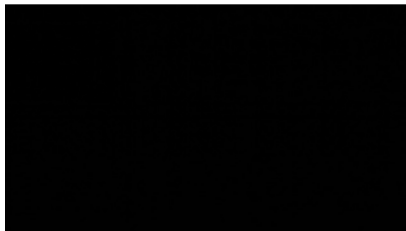
- n=61
- Decrease in visual discomfort
  - Active P<0.001
  - Placebo P=0.416
- Decrease in vitreous opacity
  - Active P<0.001
  - Placebo P=0.081

Ankrah E, Green-Gomez M, Roche W, Ng E, Welge-Lüssen U, Kaercher T, Nolan JM. Dietary Intervention With a Targeted Micronutrient Formulation Reduces the Visual Discomfort Associated With Vitreous Degeneration. *Trans Vis Sci Technol*. 2021 Oct 4;10(12):15.

92

## 1 Step Limited Vitrectomy

Video Courtesy of Paul Singh, MD



93

## Laser Vitreolysis

- Goh WN, Mustapha M, Zakaria SZS, Bastion MC. The effectiveness of laser vitreolysis for vitreous floaters in posterior vitreous detachment. *Indian J Ophthalmol*. 2022 Aug;70(8):3026-3032.
- Lin T, Li T, Zhang X, Hui Y, Moutari S, Pazo EE, Dai G, Shen L. The Efficacy and Safety of YAG Laser Vitreolysis for Symptomatic Vitreous Floaters of Complete PVD or Non-PVD. *Ophthalmol Ther*. 2022 Feb;11(1):201-214.
- C.P. Shah, J.S. Heier. YAG laser vitreolysis vs sham YAG vitreolysis for symptomatic vitreous floaters: a randomized clinical trial. *JAMA Ophthalmol*, 135 (2017), pp. 918-923.
- D. Su, C.P. Shah, J. Hsu. Laser vitreolysis for symptomatic floaters is not yet ready for widespread adoption. *Surv Ophthalmol*, 65 (2020), pp. 589-591.

94

## PPV for Vitreous Opacities

Video Courtesy of John Kitchens, MD



95

## Vitrectomy

- Dysager DD, Koren SF, Grauslund J, Wied J, Subhi Y. Efficacy and Safety of Pars Plana Vitrectomy for Primary Symptomatic Floaters: A Systematic Review with Meta-Analyses. *Ophthalmol Ther*. 2022 Dec;11(6):2225-2242.
- Morris RE. Vitreous Opacity Vitrectomy (VOV): Safest Possible Removal of "Floaters". *Clin Ophthalmol*. 2022 Jun 1;16:1653-1663.
- Mason JO, Neimkin MG, Mason JO, et al. Safety, efficacy, and quality of life following sutureless vitrectomy for symptomatic vitreous floaters. *Retina*. 2014;34:1055-1061.

96



### The Future of Floaters

- Picosecond / femtosecond lasers with 3D imaging
- Pharmacologic vitreolysis
- Nanoparticles w/low energy laser

Stephenson, M. Treating Floaters: The Pros, The Cons, the Techniques.  
<https://www.reviewofophthalmology.com/article/treating-floaters-the-pros-cons-and-techniques>, May 2024.

97

### Mythbuster #8

Drops are Most Effective for Intraocular Surgery

98

### Cataract Considerations Issues with Cataract Post Op Drops

- Confusion
- Cost
- Convenience
- Compliance

99

### TriMoxi or DexMoxi Intravitreal Injection

An injection of an antibiotic & steroid combination in the eye at the time of surgery.

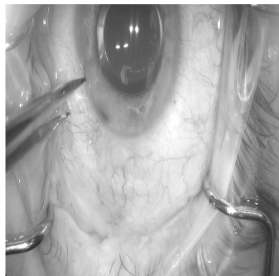
1. Triamcinolone or dexamethasone
2. Moxifloxacin

100

Pars plana injection into the vitreous cavity.

Medicine is injected after the IOL placement.

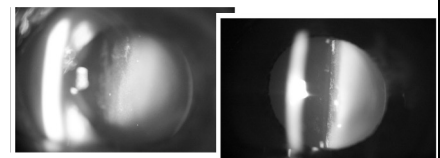
Patients are still under anesthesia so it is mostly painless



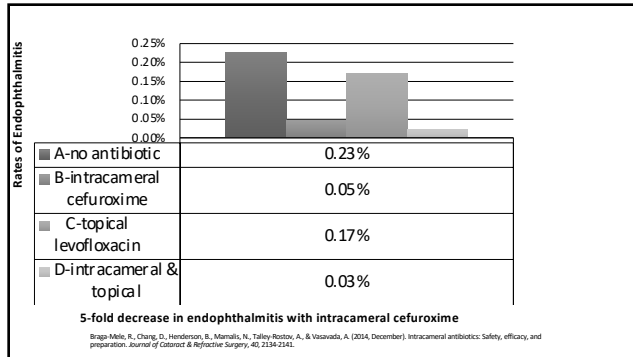
101

### What Will the Doctor See???

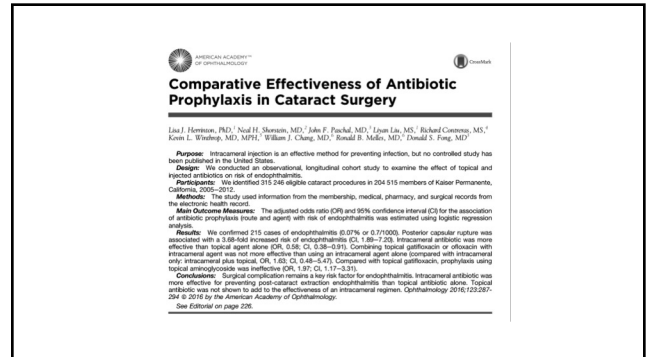
View of the injected medication 2 hours after injection



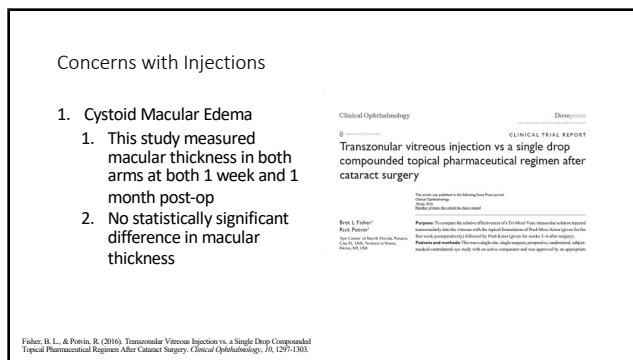
102



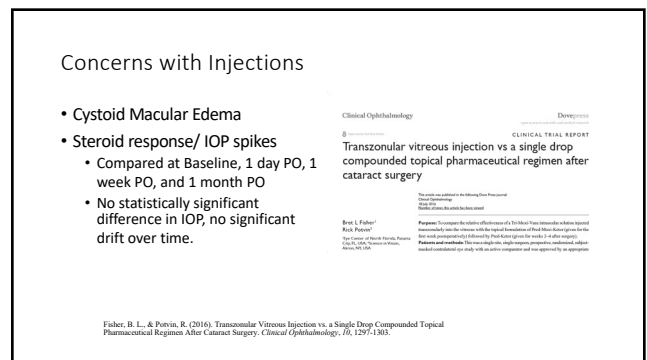
103



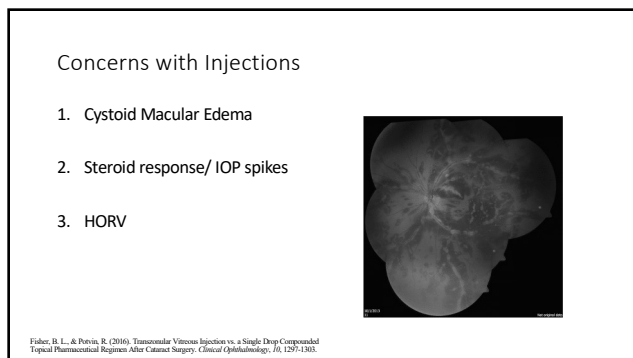
104



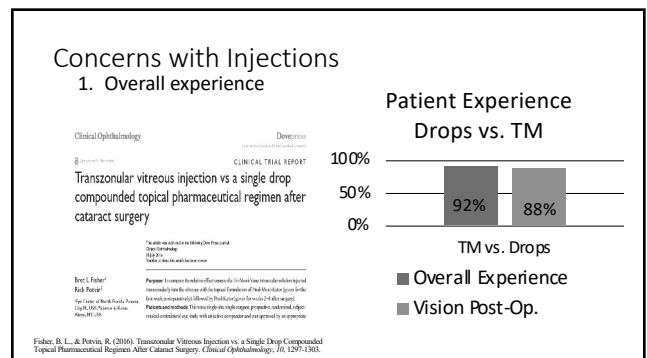
105



106



107



108

### FDA Approved

- Intracameral
  - Dexamethasone intraocular suspension 9%
- Intracanalicular
  - Dexamethasone 0.4 mg insert

109

### What does the literature say?

- Kuriakose RK, Cho S, Nassiri S, Hwang FS. Comparative Outcomes of Standard Perioperative Eye Drops, Intravitreal Triamcinolone Acetonide-Moxifloxacin, and Intracameral Dexamethasone-Moxifloxacin-Ketorolac in Cataract Surgery. *J Ophthalmol*. 2022 Jul 19;2022:4857696.
- Hovanesian, John A, MD; Donnenfeld, Eric D. MD. Intracameral dexamethasone 9% vs prednisolone acetate 1% in controlling postoperative pain and inflammation in patients undergoing cataract surgery. *Journal of Cataract & Refractive Surgery* 48(8):p 906-911, August 2022.
- Anderson J, Young S, Cockerham G, Chomsky A, Parr NJ. Evidence Brief: Intracameral Moxifloxacin for Prevention of Endophthalmitis After Cataract Surgery. Washington, DC: Evidence Synthesis Program, Health Services Research and Development Service, Office of Research and Development, Department of Veterans Affairs. VA ESP Project #09-199; 2022.

110

### Mythbuster #9

I Have to See Patients for all Postoperative Visits

111

### A Doctor Should Do What *Only* a Doctor Can Do

- Ophthalmologists
- Optometrists
- Physician Assistants
- Nurse Practitioners
- Technicians: COA, COT, COMT

112

### Why Telehealth for Post Op Care?

Patient care and outcomes come first

Demonstrate efficacy and safety

Social distance considerations

Clinically efficient

113

### Protocols for Telehealth Post Op

#### Who qualifies for Telehealth Post-Op?

- Stand-alone cataract surgery only (including ATIOLs)
- No MIGs, K procedures, combined, etc.

#### Visits

- POD #1 – Virtual
- POW #1 – In-office
- POM #1 – In-office

11

114

## Protocols for Telehealth Post-Op

### Peri-operative Medications

- Cyclopentolate + Phenylephrine – 2 drops 30 min apart prior to leaving home
- Diamox 500mg Sequel post surgery
- Brimonidine / dorzolamide BID x one week
- Omni #1 (prednisolone/gatifloxacin/bromfenac) TID x two weeks, then
- Omni #2 TID (prednisolone/bromfenac) x three weeks

### Malpractice Carrier Considerations

- Recommend telehealth calls must be made by a provider
- Did not see changes in standard of care
- Covered by informed consent

115

## Considerations

- Surgeon can schedule one day in-office if potential complication noticed during surgery
- Low threshold to be seen same day in office

116

## Telehealth Template

Depending on surgical volume, one to two OD providers perform telehealth post-ops

Telehealth scheduled appointments every 10-15 min to allow for documentation, missed calls, etc.

117

Study #1  
5/4/20 - 7/6/20

### Early Opportunities (AKA Issues) n=196 pts

- Can't get in touch with patient
- Cancelled surgery
- Drop issues
- Language barrier
- Patient comfort with TH
- Surgery outside of VSC
- Patients who needed to come in: IOP - 5 pts

118

Study #2  
Pre/Post COVID Reopening

- Standard in-office protocol used
- Study Arm #1 – 25 pts pre-covid drop protocol
  - 3 Post IOP > 30mm Hg (30, 32, 33)
- Study Arm #2 - 25 pts post-reopening drop protocol
  - 1 Post IOP > 30mm Hg (32 on same day)

119

## Patient Satisfaction Scores

N=36

- How satisfied were you with the convenience of the 1-day postoperative telehealth visit?
  - 94% Patient Satisfaction
- How would you describe your overall satisfaction of your 1-day postoperative telehealth appointment?
  - 94% Patient Satisfaction
- How satisfied were you with the understanding of your post-operative drops following your telehealth post-operative appointment?
  - 93% Patient Satisfaction

120

### Patient Satisfaction Scores

N=36

- The telehealth system was simple and easy to use.
  - 93% Agreement
- If I had to have cataract surgery again, I would prefer to have my 1-day post-operative appointment as a telehealth appointment.
  - 83% Agreement

12

121

### Cataract / Refractive Surgery Complications

#### Operative Complications

- Surgeon makes the call

#### Post-operative Complications

- Co-managing doctor makes the call

*Successful co-management is the result of continuous communication!!*

122

### Co-management 101

- Put Patients First!!
- Always the patient's choice
- Must be clinically appropriate
- Treat the referral source as a colleague
- Utilize a team approach

\*\*\*2016 AAO Comprehensive Guidelines for the Co-management of Ophthalmic Postoperative care

123

### Surgical Mythbusters

1. First line therapy is always a drop - Busted
2. Surgery is last resort - Busted
3. Toric IOLs Don't Always Work - Busted
4. Epiphora is caused only by DED/MGD - Busted
5. Full K transplant is your only option - Busted
6. Laser cataract surgery has better outcomes - Busted
7. There are no effective treatment options for floaters - Busted
8. Drops are most effective for intraocular surgery - Busted
9. I Have to See Patients for all Postoperative Visits - Busted

12

124

Thank You!!

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125