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The evaluation of Softperm lenses In Keratoconus

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Purpose: To evaluate the fitting of Softperm lenses in patients with keratoconus who were intolerant to other types of contact lenses.

Patients and Methods: 24 patients wearing Softperm were followed for up to 32 months. All patients underwent a complete ophthalmic examination including recording of visual acuity before and after lens fitting, keratometry, slit lamp examination, tonometry, and fundus examination. The fitting criteria for the Softperm lens was based on the base curve that gave a central area of touch of approximately 2 mm, peripheral skirt aligned with the peripheral cornea and limbus and lens movement of 1 mm. All patients were re examined 24h following lens fitting; and additional examinations were performed at 1 week, 1 month, and every 3 months thereafter, or as necessary.

Results: The mean follow-up was 15 months, with a range of 0.6 to 32 months. Visual acuity improved significantly with Softperm contact lens. A great number of lenses had to be replaced during the follow-up because of tearing at the interface and also because the lens became steep during the follow-up. The mean Keratometry was 52.12 with a range of 41.87 to 69.87. Some complications occurred during the follow-up period, which resulted in 8 patients wearing Softperm at the end of the study.

Conclusion: Softperm lens may be a good option for some keratoconus patients who can't wear rigid lenses, but is inadequate for fitting patients with a severe condition.