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Service (sector) Refractive Surgery

Nº CEP

Operational evaluation of time for lasik and PRK procedures in a Refractive Surgical Center.

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Purpose: To analyze the necessary time for the execution of two types of refractive surgeries in order to optimize the use of the Excimer Laser.

Methods: One hundred and forty there refractive surgeries (PRK and LASIK) performed at the Ophthalmology Department of Unifesp were subjected to an execution time analysis from the preoperative to the postoperative period.

Evaluation included patient delay before surgery, reception delay time, pre and postoperative examination time and surgery time.

Results: The necessary time for unilateral PRK was 6 minutes, for bilateral PRK 9 minutes, for unilateral LASIK was 13 minutes and for bilateral LASIK 30 minutes. The preoperative examination time was efficient though spare time was noted. The main delay causes were improper scheduling and patient delay before surgery.

Conclusion: More attention should be given to the surgeries per hour scheduling rate and to the proper number of waiting room seats, as each patient usually brings two people. Patients should be warned about arrival time according to the need of preoperative exams. Unilateral and bilateral PRKs can be scheduled each 10 minutes, unilateral LASIK each 15 minutes and bilateral LASIK each 30 minutes.