

R1 R2 R3 PG0 PG1 Estagiário Tecnólogo
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Service (sector) Cataract N° CEP

Comparison of Phacoemulsification and Planned Extracapsular Extraction in Hard Cataracts. (S. Stumpf, W. Nosé) Department of Ophthalmology, Paulista School of Medicine, São Paulo, Brazil. Purpose: To compare the morphology and density of corneal endothelium, the pachymetry and visual acuity after extracapsular cataract extraction (ECCE) and phacoemulsification in very hard cataracts. Methods: In this prospective, randomized study, 41 patients with senile and very hard cataract were divided into two groups: Group 1(21 patients) had ECCE and Group 2 (20 patients), phacoemulsification. Both had capsular bag intraocular lens implantation. Preoperatively and 1, 3 and 6 months postoperatively, a complete ophthalmological examination, endothelial specular microscopy, and ultrasonic pachymetry were done. Visual acuity, endothelial cell density, pleomorphism, polymegathism and corneal thickness were studied. Results: In both groups, cell loss increased significantly from the preoperative values, but there were no significant differences among the postoperative values (1, 3 and 6 months). Mean cell loss was 28,50% in Group 1 and 34,76% in Group 2. There were no differences among the preoperative and postoperative morphometric indexes. Postoperative pachymetric measurements were not significant. Conclusions: Endothelial response was not statistically different between the two groups studied.