

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

Cataract extraction in keratoconus.

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Purpose: To describe five patients with severe keratoconus who had cataract extraction and intraocular lens (IOL) implantation, and to discuss the intraoperative difficulties, and methods used to determine IOL power.

Materials and Methods: Five patients with severe keratoconus had cataract extraction and IOL implantation in our service from 1996 to 2002. All patients had a contraindication for penetrating keratoplasty (PK) or did not want to wait for a triple procedure. Surgeries were performed by three experienced surgeons using the extracapsular cataract extraction in one patient, and phacoemulsification in four patients. Keratometry values from corneal topography were used in the IOL formula. The mean preoperative simulated keratometry was 67.50D (range, 52.50 to 84.01D). **Results:** All five patients successfully underwent cataract extraction with variable results. Focus loss during the procedure caused by an unstable anterior chamber was the most important intraoperative difficulty. Regarding the visual acuity, the best corrected visual acuity varied from 20/80 to counting fingers. **Conclusions:** Cataract extraction in keratoconus is a feasible option to improve visual acuity in these patients, especially in the setting of available corneal graft unavailability as is often the case in our country, or in contraindicated PK cases.