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Service (sector) Cataract Nº CEP

Have visual outcome and complications of phacoemulsification performed at the training program of the Cataract Institute-UNIFESP changed with the implantation of a structured Management Model?

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Introduction: In a quest for performance excellence, the Cataract Institute-UNIFESP has developed a structured management model based on the evaluation criteria of the National Quality Award (PNQ). The strategic planning to be executed in a 5-year period, involves actions and activities which aim quality improvement of patient assistance, research and teaching. The skill transference to execute cataract surgery is the most important teaching role of any training program in cataract. Purpose: We compared the visual outcome and complications related to phacoemulsification performed by residents and junior trainees before and after the implantation of strategic actions that aimed to improve the quality of teaching at the Cataract Institute-UNIFESP training program. Methods: A retrospective cohort of consecutive phacoemulsification cataract surgeries done in 2003 was used as baseline performance before the implantation of the strategic actions. The cohort study will follow the evolution of the chosen outcomes in 2004. Data will include preoperative and postoperative best-corrected visual acuity, preexisting ocular comorbidities, and intraoperative and postoperative complications. Results: The general complication rate observed in some months of the first semester of 2003 was 11%. Junior trainees presented the higher rate of complication (21%), followed by second-year resident (16%). Perspectives: We expect that our performance results will be comparable to world class training programs for cataract surgery.