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Service (sector) Ocular Plastic Surgery N° CEP

Exenteration: a Retrospective Study

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Purpose: To evaluate retrospectively 20 patients who underwent orbital exenteration between 1998 and 2003. Materials and Methods: Patient charts were analyzed to collect the following data from all patients: sex, age, race, primary lesion site, visual acuity at the moment of diagnosis, previous surgeries related to the lesion which caused the exenteration, type of surgery achieved, hystopathologic diagnosis, post-operative complications and use of adjuvant treatment or not. Results: in this study, we observed that most patients were elderly, male and caucasian. All lesions that led to exenteration were diagnosed as malignant neoplasias. Most of them were squamous cell carcinomas originated from the eyelids. Visual acuity at the moment of diagnosis presented as hand motions or worse in most patients. Only five patients had already been submitted to any kind of surgery previous to the exenteration. Five patients presented with post-operative complications and 6 patients needed adjunctive therapy (5 patients needed radiotherapy after surgery and 1 needed preoperative chemotherapy). Conclusion: Eyelid and conjunctival neoplastic lesions are potentially curable most of the times. However, if they are not treated soon, they present high morbidity and mortality