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Service (sector) Glaucoma Nº CEP

Comparison of the efficacy of polypropylene and silicone Ahmed implants

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Purpose: To compare the efficacy of polypropylene versus silicone Ahmed glaucoma valves in patients with refractory glaucoma. Materials and Methods: Retrospective chart review of patients who underwent Ahmed glaucoma valve insertion in the Glaucoma Division of the Cole Eye Institute of The Cleveland Clinic Foundation between May 2000 and January 2005 was performed. All eves with at least 3 months of follow up data were included. Results: A total of 100 eyes of 94 patients were included in the study. 54 eyes received polypropylene (Group A) and 46 eyes received silicone (Group B) Ahmed glaucoma valve implants. Mean preoperative intraocular pressure was 33.8 ±10.7 mmHg in Group A and 32.5 ±10.8 mmHg in Group B (p=0.56). Mean postoperative intraocular pressure was 16.5 ±6.6 mmHg in Group A and 16.9 ±6.3 mmHg in Group B after 3 months (p=0.78), 17.9 ±6.4 mmHg in Group A and 17.5 ±6.2 mmHg in Group B after 6 months (p=0.78) and 14.3 ±5.2 mmHg in Group A and 14.6 ±4.3 mmHg in Group B after 1 year (p=0.75). Preoperative number of glaucoma medications was 3.3 ±1.2 in Group A and 3.6 ±0.9 in Group B (p=0.12). Postoperative number of glaucoma medications was 1.1 ±1.2 in Group A and 1.0 ±1.2 in Group B (p=0.64). Time that medications were started after surgery was 63.7 ±83.0 days in Group A and 56.0 ±52.4 days in Group B (p=0.68).

Conclusions: There was no statistically significant difference between polypropylene and silicone Ahmed implants in controlling the intraocular pressure after 1 year follow-up.