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### **A Longitudinal Study of Intraocular Lens Exchange**

Frederico F.Marques,MD1, Daniela M.V.Marques,MD 2, Robert H. Osher,MD3 , Lincoln L. Freitas, MD4. **Purpose:** To analyze the indications for IOL exchange, the interval between the first IOL implantation and the exchange, the type and mix of IOL's used, the effect on vision, and the frequency of complications. **Material and Methods:** Retrospective study with 49 eyes of 49 adult patients who underwent IOL exchange between 1986 and 2002 performed by the same surgeon. The mean age was 70 years old and 55% were female. The mean interval between surgeries was 53.8 months and the average follow-up period was 35.6 months. The patients were divided into two groups according to the type of IOL originally implanted: anterior chamber IOL (ACIOL) or posterior chamber IOL (PCIOL). **Results:** There were fifteen eyes with an ACIOL and 34 eyes with a PCIOL. The difference in mean age and follow-up were not statistically significant between groups. The interval between the primary surgery and explantation procedure was 82.3 months in the ACIOL group and 37.9 months in the PCIOL group. The main reason for IOL exchange was inflammation in the ACIOL group (53.34%) and dislocation/decentration in the PCIOL group (85.3%). The pre-op BCVA was similar in both groups and the visual acuity was either maintained or improved in 80%. Vitreous prolapse was the main intraoperative complication encountered. **Conclusion:** IOL exchange was performed to correct intraocular inflammation in patients with an ACIOL while malposition was the primary indication in the patient with a PCIOL. The results confirm the safety and positive visual outcome in this complex group of patients.