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### **Limbus Versus Fornix Based Conjunctival Flaps in Trabeculectomy - Efficacy and Complications**

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**Purpose:** To evaluate the success rate and complications of fornix or limbus based (FB and LB) trabeculectomy performed by second-year residents. **Methods:** It is a prospective randomized trial, performed at the Glaucoma Section of São Paulo Federal University. Glaucomatous patients with trabeculectomy indication were randomized for fornix or limbus based surgery, which was performed by a second-year resident and assisted by an experienced surgeon. The outcomes were: intraocular pressure (IOP) and complications. Covariates were: age, race, past medical history, and medication in use. Success criteria were IOP  $\leq 18$  mmHg or more than 30% of IOP reduction without medication (criteria 1), and IOP  $\leq 18$  mmHg or more than 30% of IOP reduction with maximum 2 medications (criteria 2). which would be performed by supervised second year residents, **Results:** We studied 49 surgeries of 45 patients: 25 FB (51%) and 24 LB (49%). The mean follow up was 11 months for both groups. Complications were classified in early (within the first week) and late (after 7 days). Early complications were: Seidel (48% FB and 29% LB), athalamy (4% FB and 4% LB), choroidal detachment (16% FB and 12.5% LB), hypotony (64% FB and 41.6% LB) and hyphema (12% FB and 8.3% LB). Late complications were: hypotony (48% FB and 37.5% LB), Seidel (40% FB and 16.6% LB), choroidal detachment (12% FB and 25 % LB), encysted bleb (16% FB and 8.3% LB), worsening of cataract (12% FB and 8.3 % LB), athalamy (4% FB and 4.2% LB) and avascular bleb (16% FB and 25% LB). In FB group, 72% of patients met criteria 1 and 80 % criteria 2. In LB group, 85.7% of patients met criteria 1 and 95.3% met criteria 2. There was no statistically significant difference between the FB and LB groups for complications or success rate ( $p$  0.7266 for criteria 1;  $p$  0.2040 for criteria 2). **Conclusion:** Success rate and complications of limbus and fornix based trabeculectomy performed by second-year residents were similar.