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Service (sector) Refractive Surgery N° CEP 01449/04

### **A Prospective Randomized Clinical Trial to Compare PRK with MMC versus LASIK in Wavefront-Guided Surgeries for Compound Myopic Astigmatism**

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Purpose: To compare photorefractive keratectomy (PRK) with prophylactic use of mitomycin C (MMC) and laser in situ keratomileusis (LASIK) in custom surgeries for compound myopic astigmatism. Methods: Eighty-eight eyes of 44 patients with a minimum estimated ablation depth of 50  $\mu\text{m}$  were randomized to PRK with MMC 0.002% for one minute in one eye and LASIK in the fellow eye. Uncorrected visual acuity (UCVA), best-spectacle-corrected visual acuity (BSCVA), cycloplegic refraction, biomicroscopy, contrast sensitivity, specular microscopy, aberrometry and a subjective questionnaire were evaluated. All patients completed 6 months follow-up. Results: Mean spherical equivalent (SE) error before surgery and mean ablation depth (AD) were  $-3.99 \pm 1.20$  diopters (D) and  $73.09 \pm 14.55 \mu\text{m}$  in LASIK eyes and  $-3.85 \pm 1.12$  D and  $70.7 \pm 14.07 \mu\text{m}$  in MMC-PRK eyes. At six months postoperatively, the mean UCVA (logMAR) were  $-0.10 \pm 0.09$  in LASIK eyes and  $-0.13 \pm 0.10$  in MMC-PRK eyes ( $p > 0.05$ ). The mean BSCVAs improved in both groups postoperatively ( $p = 0.001$ ), with no statistically significant between-group difference. The mean cycloplegic SE error was  $0.52 \pm 0.56$  D and  $0.56 \pm 0.34$  D in LASIK and MMC-PRK, respectively at last follow-up ( $p > 0.05$ ). Significant haze was not observed in any PRK eye. The mean high-order-aberration (HOA) was higher in LASIK eyes postoperatively when compared with MMC-PRK eyes ( $p < 0.04$ ). PRK with MMC eyes showed better contrast sensitivity than LASIK eyes. The endothelial cell count did not differ significantly in both groups ( $p > 0.713$ ). PRK with MMC eyes were better rated in terms of visual satisfaction. Conclusion: PRK with MMC may be more effective than LASIK in custom surgeries for myopia. Long-term follow up is necessary to attest its safety.