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Changes in Visual Acuity after Cataract Surgery in Glaucoma Subjects

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Purpose: To evaluate the changes in visual acuity after cataract surgery in glaucoma patients.

Methods: A retrospective, chart-review study was performed. Glaucoma patients that underwent uneventful cataract surgery were included. Data on visual acuity before and after surgery as well as the sensitivity of the paracentral points in the preoperative standard automated perimetry were collected. The relative improvement in visual acuity was calculated as the change (before – after surgery) in the logarithm of minimum angle of resolution (logMAR) divided by the preoperative logMAR.

Results: A total of 29 patients (32 eyes) were included in the study. The median (range) visual acuity before and after surgery were 20/70 (20/30 to counting fingers at 50 cm) and 20/30 (20/20 to 20/100), respectively. The median relative improvement in visual acuity was 62% ($P < 0.001$). There was no correlation between the relative improvement in visual acuity and the sensitivity of the paracentral points in the preoperative perimetry ($r = 0.18$; $P = 0.33$).

Conclusions: Visual acuity improved moderately after cataract surgery in glaucoma patients. This improvement was not correlated with the preoperative paracentral sensitivity of the standard automated perimetry.