Reviewer’s report

Title: Comparing the efficacy of mydriatic cocktail-soaked sponge and conventional pupil dilation in patients using tamsulosin - a randomized controlled trial

Version: 1 Date: 11 May 2013

Reviewer: Rana Altan-Yaycioglu

Reviewer’s report:

- Major Compulsory Revisions
  • In surgical technique, the authors reported that used either oblique or temporal clear corneal incision. Please define how many patient in each group. Oclique incision is closer to the central cornea, thus in those patients iris prolapse from the wound may occur more frequently compared to the temporal group. Thus I believe that these two different incision locations should be included in different groups.
  • The results are not given orderly. Following results, which are mentioned in Discussion, should be moved to the Results section:
    o We observed statistically significant miosis in tamsulosin treated patients (group 1) compared to patients without #1-ARA medication (group 3) only before IOL implatation (p=0.0084).
    o In the two tamsulosin treated groups, the patients dilated with a mydriatic wick had greater preoperative mydriasis in comparison with patients receiving conventional eye drop regimen, however, this difference was not significant. This slight difference disappeared at later stages of surgery.
    o The duration of the operation was significantly correlated to intraoperative miosis only in our control group, but not in the two tamsulosin treated group.
  • Were patients, in whom iris retractors were used, included in the statistical analysis. I believe that the incidence of iris refractor use which is on page 7 is important. However, patients with iris hooks should be excluded from the statistical analysis.
  • Please give the p values for all comparisons.

- Minor Essential Revisions
  • Please write ARA in full when it is first appearing in the text.
  • Pupil diameter was measured with 0.5 mm intervals. Please explain this.
  • On table 1, since iris billowing and iris prolapsed are observed parameters of IFIS, observed pupil constriction could also be added as a different parameter from intraoperative miosis (which is an objective measured parameter in this study).
  • It was noted as “Satisfactory or sufficient mydriasis was observed throughout the surgery in 16/27 patients in group 1, 17/26 patients in group 2, and 30/30
patients in group 3.” However, this is not in accordance with their results. Five patients in the control group had poor pupil dilation before IOL implantation. Also, iris retractors were used in one patient, so this patient ought to be excluded from the final results.

- It is written as “In our control group we found significant correlation between total intraoperative miosis and operation time (p=0.007).” What about the study group?

**Level of interest:** An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.