Reviewer's report

Title: A novel surgical technique for punctal stenosis: Placement of three interrupted sutures after rectangular three-snip punctoplasty

Version: 0 Date: 11 Dec 2017

Reviewer: Hunter Yuen

Reviewer's report:

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An interesting technique, need some clarification / amendment:

- What are the pre op grading of the stenosed puncta? Any control group?
- Better to review other variations of punctoplasty such as punch punctoplasty [https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=punch+punctoplasty](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=punch+punctoplasty)
- Why the authors choose 10'o nylon rather than 9'o vicryl? In the photos provided, the knots are not buried. Are there any discomfort or corneal irritation due to this?
- As the final outcome is using 'improved' or 'unchanged', I will not call this 'patient satisfaction survey' (page 2)
- What instrument was used to make the cut? I suppose if use Vannas scissors, the lifespan of these will be shorten
- Can the authors provide some references of using Tear meniscus height (TMH) as a pre and post op assessment tool?
- The authors mentioned that the mean TMH fell from 1.37 mm to 0.81 mm. The paired t-test revealed a significant difference between the pre- and post-operative TMH (p < 0.001). Please include the range of pre and post of TMH.
- The authors need to provide some explanation why their technique works well (such as less raw surface, healing by primary intention rather than granulation tissue)
- What post op eye medications were used?
- Was surgery performed under operative microscope or loupe? Please clarify.
- The authors said this technique is more invasive, how long does it take to do for one case?

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.
No

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.
I am able to assess the statistics

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