

Use of a fibrin adhesive for conjunctival closure in trabeculectomy.

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Abstract:

PURPOSE: To assess the safety and efficacy of a fibrin tissue adhesive (Tissucol Duo()) used to close the conjunctiva in trabeculectomy.

METHODS: A nonrandomized prospective study including 57 patients with chronic simple glaucoma who underwent trabeculectomy surgery. All the trabeculectomies were conducted by the same surgeon using the same surgical technique with the exception that conjunctival closure was achieved by either running Nylon 10/0 suture (n = 29) or using the fibrin glue (n = 28). Preoperative and postoperative data were obtained on intraocular pressure (IOP), number of hypotensive medications used, self-reported discomfort and complications arising during and after surgery.

RESULTS: No differences were detected between the two patient groups regarding the intraocular pressure reduction achieved during follow-up. In the first 2 weeks of follow-up, reported discomfort assessed using a visual analogue scale was significantly lower in the Tissucol Duo() group. Two patients in the Tissucol Duo() group suffered conjunctival dehiscence and suturing was required at 24 hours postsurgery. Remaining complications were similar in the two groups.

CONCLUSION: The use of Tissucol Duo() seems to be a safe and efficient option for conjunctival closure in trabeculectomy that simplifies the surgical procedure and reduces patient discomfort in the immediate postoperative period.

