[Pterygium surgery: comparative study of conjunctival autograft with

suture versus fibrin adhesive]. [Spanish]

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Abstract:

PURPOSE: To compare recurrence rate, complications, and biomicroscopical findings after

conjunctival autograft pterygium surgery with the use of a fibrin glue (Tissucol Duo, Baxter AG,

Vienna, Austria) or suture (7-0 silk).

METHODS: Patients with nasal pterygium were included in two groups of conjunctival autograft

surgery. In 9 of them the graft was sutured to the surrounding conjunctiva and in 8 of them the graft

was fixed to the conjunctiva using fibrin glue.

RESULTS: 17 patients (17 eyes) 41.2% women and 58.8% men were surgically treated. Mean

patient age was 59.8 years. Five of the patients presented recurrence for simple excision and 12

presented primary pterygium. The extent of corneal invasion was 2 to 4 mm. In the suture group,

33.3% of the patients experienced pain after surgery compared to none in the fibrin glue group. In

the suture group, 44.4% of the patients presented inflammation after surgery compared to none in

the glue group. One patient from the glue group lost the graft and presented a recurrence one

month later.

CONCLUSIONS: The use of fibrin glue in pterygium surgery reduces patient symptoms,

inflammation and discomfort. The rate of recurrence seems to be similar in both procedures.