

Comparison of fibrin glue and sutures for attaching conjunctival autografts after pterygium excision.

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Publication Date: 2005

Abstract:

Purpose: To compare the efficacy and safety of fibrin glue and suturing for attaching conjunctival autografts among patients undergoing pterygium excision. **Design:** Prospective, randomized, interventional case series. **Participants:** Twenty-two patients undergoing excision of primary pterygium. **Methods:** A superior conjunctival autograft was harvested and transferred onto bare sclera after pterygium excision. Fibrin glue (Beriplast P) was used to attach the autograft in 11 eyes and nylon 10-0 suture was used to attach the autograft in 11 eyes. The patients were followed up for 2 months. **Main Outcome Measures:** Graft success, recurrence rate, operating time, patient comfort. **Results:** All conjunctival autografts in both groups were successfully attached and were intact after 2 months. The average operating time for the fibrin glue group was significantly shorter ($P < 0.001$). Postoperative symptoms were fewer for the fibrin glue group than the suture group. One patient (9%) from the fibrin group experienced subconjunctival hemorrhage, and 1 patient (9%) from the suture group experienced partial graft dehiscence. **Conclusions:** Fibrin glue is a safe and effective method for attaching conjunctival autografts. The use of fibrin glue results in shorter operating times and less postoperative discomfort. © 2005 by the American Academy of Ophthalmology.