

# **Pterygium surgery: Fibrin glue versus vicryl sutures for conjunctival closure.**

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## **Abstract:**

**PURPOSE:** To compare the short-term results of conjunctival closure in pterygium surgery using fibrin adhesive versus Vicryl sutures with respect to operative time, postoperative ocular signs and symptoms, and overall patient satisfaction. **METHODS:** A comparative prospective randomized clinical trial was performed in 65 patients (65 eyes) with primary nasal pterygium. Surgery in all patients consisted of the bare sclera technique combined with intraoperative mitomycin C. Patients were randomized to undergo conjunctival closure with a fibrin tissue adhesive (Quixil;  $n = 39$ ) or 8-0 Vicryl absorbable interrupted sutures ( $n = 26$ ). Clinical assessment was performed on days 1, 3, 10, and 21 after surgery. Patients completed a questionnaire at each follow-up visit, grading pain, discomfort, and satisfaction with the procedure. The groups were compared for operative time, ocular signs and symptoms, and overall satisfaction. **RESULTS:** Average operative time was 16 minutes (range, 14-16 minutes) in the fibrin glue group and 20 minutes (range, 20-29 minutes) in the Vicryl suture group ( $P < 0.05$ ). Significantly less pain, photophobia, foreign body sensation, irritation, epiphora, itching, local hyperemia, conjunctival chemosis, and dry eye were noted in the subjects treated with glue than in controls ( $P < 0.05$ ). There were no complications during the 3-week follow-up period in the glue-treated patients. One of the patients in the suture group had a medically treatable corneal dellen. **CONCLUSION:** The use of fibrin glue in pterygium surgery significantly reduces operative time and patient symptoms, pain, and discomfort. A longer follow-up is needed to evaluate the influence of fibrin glue on rate of recurrence and long-term complications. © 2006 Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Inc.