

Scleral Fixation of Intraocular Lens

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Procedure Information Sheet

Introduction

Intraocular lens is placed into the eye to improve vision after removal of the cataract. Once the intraocular lens dislocates, it is necessary to fixate the intraocular lens at the sclera to improve the vision.

Indication

- Cataract or subluxed / dislocated crystalline lens
- Aphakia
- Complication occurred during cataract surgery
- Exchange of intraocular lens
- Ophthalmic trauma

The Operation / Procedure

- 1. The procedure can be performed under general or local anesthesia depending on your condition.
- 2. A small wound is made at the cornea near the white part of the eye. Depending on the type of cataract or lens, it may be removed as a whole piece or being emulsified and aspirated. Then SF-IOL inserted and fixated to the scleral wall. The wound could be closed with stitches if needed.

Before the Operation / Procedure

- 1. Measurement of the axial length of the eye and curvatures of the cornea to determine the model and power of intraocular lens required.
- 2. Eyelids should be kept clean to decrease the risks of post-operative infection.
- 3. Your doctor may prescribe eye drops before the procedure. Make sure you follow the guides of its administration.
- 4. Cosmetics and makeup should be avoided on the day of procedure.
- 5. Inform your doctor if you have systemic diseases such as hypertension, stroke, heart disease, diabetes, voiding difficulty or are taking western medications (especially blood thinners like Aspirin or Warfarin), traditional Chinese medicine or health supplements on a regular basis.

After the Operation / Procedure

- 1. Avoid eye rubbing.
- 2. Avoid swimming and vigorous activities for a few weeks.
- 3. Avoid dirty water getting into your operated eye for the first few weeks.
- 4. Wear clothes with buttons and not pullovers in order to avoid the clothes coming in contact with the operated eye to prevent infection.
- 5. You are required to take the medications and attend follow up according to doctor's instruction.
- 6. You may require few months for recovery, sometimes need to off stitches during recovery period.
- 7. After operation, you may need refractive correction to improve visual, including reading by using glasses or contact lens etc.
- 8. If you have pathological changes in retinal, optic nerve or cornea, glaucoma or uveitis etc. before operation, it may affect the post-operative vision.

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- 9. If complications occur, the vision may even worsen compared before operation.
- 10. If you notice the following signs or symptoms, you should attend your doctor, Eye Centre or Out-patient Centre for consultation.
 - 10.1 excessive bleeding
 - 10.2 severe pain
 - 10.3 fever
 - 10.4 signs of infection like redness, swelling, large amount of discharge or odor

Risk and Complication

The operation is a safe one but risks and complications may arise. Apart from possible complications related to anesthesia, the following conditions may occur:

- Severe intraocular hemorrhage
- Cataract fragment left, may need re-operation
- SF-IOL non-implantation
- SF-IOL decentration, IOL tilt, IOL capture, subluxation, dislocation
- Wound dehiscence
- Pupil distortion
- Stiches related complications, such as inflammation, loosen etc.
- Corneal swelling or clouding
- Abnormally high or low intraocular pressure
- Dropping of eyelid
- Retinal or choroid detachment
- Macula edema
- Glare or visual distortion
- May need multiple surgeries
- Endophthalmitis
- Sympathetic Ophthalmia
- Blindness

Disclaimer

This leaflet only provides general information pertaining to this operation / procedure. While common risks and complications are described, the list is not exhaustive, and the degree of risk could also vary between patients. Please contact your doctor for detailed information and specific enquiry.

Reference

American Academy of Ophthalmology, EyeWiki, Article: Scleral Fixated Intraocular lens (11/2022) from https://eyewiki.org/Scleral Fixated Intraocular Lens

- Hospital Authority, Hong Kong Eye Hospital (April 2021) Fact Sheet -SF-IOL Implantation

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