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## Microincisional Surgery With the CENTURION Vision System

ACTIVE FLUIDICS Technology is designed to enable maximum flexibility in phaco parameters.

BY RICHARD J. MACKOOL, MD

As the technology incorporated into the CENTURION Vision System (Alcon Laboratories, Inc.) was developed over the past decade, I had the opportunity to participate first in laboratory testing of its unique fluidic and ultrasonic components, and eventually in the beta site evaluations of the product. I now have more than 2 years of experience with the CENTURION Vision System, and it has become the primary phaco instrument for the 45 surgeons at our ASC.

### CASE PRESENTATION AND EARLY STEPS

The following is a description of the removal of a moderately dense cataract with the CENTURION Vision System. (The video of the procedure may be viewed at <http://eyetube.net/video/mackool-case-3/>)

The cataract displayed areas of dense anterior subcapsular opacities in the vicinity of the capsulorhexis. After creating a 1-mm tapered sideport incision and a 2.4-mm primary clear corneal incision, I injected trypan blue dye in order to stain the anterior capsule. I then placed my left index finger at the medial canthal fornix in order to fixate the globe while I inserted the keratome.

After an intracameral injection of lidocaine, I injected VISCOAT OVD (Alcon Laboratories, Inc.) and then PROVISC OVD (Alcon Laboratories, Inc.) in the soft shell technique to expand the anterior chamber. I used the tip of the 25-gauge disposable needle that had been placed on the PROVISC syringe to open the central region of the anterior capsule. Because of the patient's marked Bell's phenomenon, I introduced a blunt spatula through the sideport incision in order to both center and stabilize the globe. I then used a Mackool capsulorhexis forceps to create a capsulorhexis of approximately 4.5 mm.

I next performed hydrodissection using a Mackool 22-gauge cannula (Crestpoint Management Ltd.) that I slightly elevated against the undersurface of the anterior capsule as I injected BSS (Alcon Laboratories, Inc.), and then I depressed the nucleus to permit egress of the BSS. I repeated this procedure at a location 180°

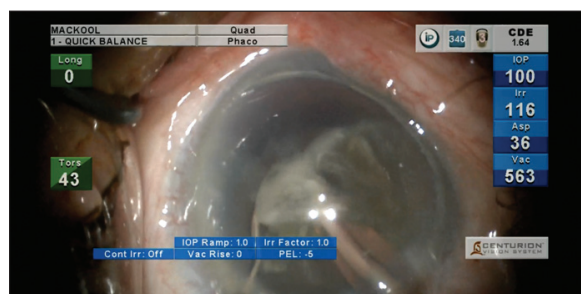


Figure 1. ACTIVE FLUIDICS Technology maintains stability in the anterior chamber during phacoemulsification, even when vacuum levels approach 600 mm Hg.

from the original injection site. This I followed with viscodissection with VISCOAT OVD for 180° opposite the primary incision, thereby creating a visible space between the anterior capsule and the underlying lens cortex/nucleus.

### NUCLEAR SCULPTING AND REMOVAL

I inserted a curved Mackool Big Ball Chopper (Crestpoint Management Ltd.) through the sideport incision and the 45° Balanced Tip with the UltraSleeve (Alcon Laboratories, Inc.) through the 2.4-mm clear corneal incision. The combination of the 2.4-mm incision and the UltraSleeve creates a near-perfect incision seal, so that little if any BSS leaks around the incision sleeve during the procedure. The curvature of the Balanced Tip increases the efficiency of torsional phaco. Thus, for a given amount of rotation of the tip's proximal portion, there is approximately a 30% greater rotation of the distal tip than with any other tip design. This results in the more efficient removal of both soft and firm cataracts.

During sculpting, I placed the Big Ball Chopper over the nuclear equator opposite the phaco incision. This maneuver stabilized the nucleus and permitted precise sculpting. The nucleus remained perfectly still while I gradually deepened the nuclear bowl until a red reflex became visible. I then accomplished the first chop by impaling the nucleus (foot pedal position 3 to impale,



**Figure 2.** An aspiration flow rate of 42 cc/min easily draws nuclear material to the phaco tip.

then foot pedal position 2 to maintain vacuum). With an achieved vacuum of 250 to 300 mm Hg, the nucleus remained immobilized by the phaco tip as I successfully performed the horizontal chop maneuver. I sequentially rotated the nucleus as I performed three additional horizontal chops without utilizing vacuum to impale the nucleus (non-impale technique).

With the nucleus now divided into four quadrants, the CENTURION Vision System demonstrated its flexibility during the removal of each quadrant. The ACTIVE FLUIDICS Technology maintained maximum anterior chamber volume, even as I achieved vacuum levels approaching 600 mm Hg (Figure 1). Although I prefer to work at a high IOP setting (100 mm Hg), the same anterior chamber volume maintenance can be achieved with much lower IOP settings should the surgeon prefer a softer globe during phacoemulsification. The aspiration flow rate of 42 cc/min that I employed during the nuclear segment removal provided great attraction of nuclear material to the phaco tip and enabled the tip to remain in the center of the anterior chamber as the quadrants were attracted to it (Figure 2).

The handpiece of the CENTURION Vision System features a lure-lock mechanism. With the infusion line thereby firmly attached to the handpiece, inadvertent detachment of the infusion line from either the phaco or I/A handpiece is impossible.

## CORTEX REMOVAL AND LENS IMPLANTATION

I prefer a 90° I/A tip, and I use a lower IOP setting of 60 mm Hg to remove the lens cortex and to vacuum the epithelium from the undersurface of the anterior capsule. This eye was highly myopic, a situation in which many patients experience mild to moderate discomfort with IOP elevation as a result of scleral distention. Because this patient experienced only transient discomfort, it was unnecessary to lower the IOP setting.

Some fibrosis of the posterior capsule was present in this eye, but it may not have been of visual significance.



**Figure 3.** The AutoSert IOL Injector enables the surgeon to use the nondominant hand to stabilize the globe.

I injected PROVISC OVD into the capsular sac and anterior chamber, using the tip of the OVD cannula to gently polish the posterior capsule as the viscoelastic entered the eye. Next, I inserted the IOL using the AutoSert IOL Injector (Alcon Laboratories, Inc.), with an injection rate of 4.4 mm/sec and a pause duration of 2 seconds (called the *dwel time*). This injector delivers the IOL under linear control via the footpedal and thus frees the surgeon's nondominant hand to stabilize the position of the globe as the IOL advances into the eye (Figure 3). Immediately upon injection, I used the same spatula that I had used to stabilize the globe to position the IOL within the capsular sac, and then to rotate the IOL slightly so the haptics were horizontally oriented.

## VISCOELASTIC REMOVAL AND CLOSING THE EYE

I removed the retained viscoelastic with the I/A tip, and then I manually irrigated the chamber angle to remove OVD from this region and thereby reduce the risk of an IOP spike. The incisions were sealed by stromal hydration, antibiotic was injected intracamerally, and the IOL appeared to be centered within the capsular sac. I also noted that the margins of the capsulorhexis covered the surface of the optic for 360°.

Within minutes, this patient reported markedly improved acuity. On the following day, the UCVA was 20/20 (plano target). It should be noted, however, that the final refractive outcome is subject to variation for 7 to 14 days because of slight variations of the effective lens position that can occur during that time. ■

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Please see CENTURION Vision System's Directions for Use for important information about this product.

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