

SOLVING DILEMMAS



Improving patients' levels of satisfaction and convenience.

BY JORGE L. ALIÓ, MD, PHD, FEBOPHTH

DISSATISFACTION AFTER TRIFOCAL IOL IMPLANTATION AND ITS IMPROVEMENT BY SELECTIVE WAVEFRONT-GUIDED LASIK

Seiler TG, Wegner A, Senfft T, Seiler T¹

ABSTRACT SUMMARY

Seiler and colleagues identified 42 of 108 consecutive patients (56 of 213 eyes [26%]) who were dissatisfied 1 month after undergoing cataract surgery and the implantation of a trifocal IOL (FineVision, PhysIOL) because of residual refractive error. This error occurred most frequently in the form of refractive astigmatism greater than 0.50 D.

The dissatisfied patients subsequently—and at no charge to them—underwent selective wavefront-guided LASIK with the Amaris 1050 excimer laser system (Schwind eye-tech-solutions). The procedure used a wavefront acquisition technique with the Peramis (Schwind eye-tech-solutions), a combination topographer and aberrometer, to correct all higher-order aberrations except spherical aberration in order to preserve apodization. None of the patients had a posterior capsular opacity or had undergone an Nd:YAG laser capsulotomy.

Seiler and colleagues compared patients' degrees of satisfaction and refractive errors before and after LASIK. The procedure achieved the refractive

STUDY IN BRIEF

- ▶ In this retrospective study, investigators assessed whether selective wavefront-guided LASIK to correct residual refractive error and all higher-order aberrations except for spherical aberration improved patients' level of satisfaction after cataract surgery and the implantation of a trifocal IOL. The investigators found a clear benefit to this approach.

WHY IT MATTERS

The investigators found residual refractive error to be the main reason for patient dissatisfaction after cataract surgery with the implantation of a multifocal IOL. Successfully addressing this cause of dissatisfaction could increase the adoption of presbyopia-correcting IOLs.

target in 98% of patients, and the degree of refractive astigmatism was 0.50 D or less in 93%. Patients' overall satisfaction increased from 2.1 ±0.8 preoperatively to 3.6 ±0.8 postoperatively (out of 4), and 88% stated that they would choose the procedure again.

DISCUSSION

Multifocal IOLs have become a standard solution to pseudophakic presbyopia.² Designs include diffractive, refractive, and hybrid technologies. Extended depth of focus lenses are recent additions that induce a certain amount of spherical aberration to increase depth of focus,^{3,4} and several accommodating lenses are in development.⁵

Unfortunately, some patients are dissatisfied after receiving presbyopia-correcting IOLs despite an outcome of 20/20 and J1 UCVA. The

source of dissatisfaction may be a residual refractive error or a neural processing limitation.⁶ The study by Seiler et al deals with the former cause.

Other investigators have described the use of laser vision correction to improve patient satisfaction after multifocal IOL implantation and have reported varying levels of success.^{7,8} This study by Seiler et al is innovative in that treatment addressed not just refractive error but also higher-order aberrations with the exception of spherical aberration. Earlier research did not find a clear benefit with wavefront-guided treatments,⁹ but Seiler and colleagues, instead of using a Hartmann-Shack aberrometer, used an aberrometer with a pyramidal sensor (Osiris-T, CSO Technologies) that has a higher resolution. This may explain the superior outcomes they reported.

CORNEAL CROSSLINKING AND INTRACORNEAL RING SEGMENTS FOR KERATOCONUS: A RANDOMIZED STUDY OF CONCURRENT VERSUS SEQUENTIAL SURGERY

Hersh PS, Issa R, Greenstein SA¹⁰

ABSTRACT SUMMARY

The purpose of this prospective randomized clinical trial was to

compare the safety and efficacy of CXL and the placement of intrastromal corneal ring segments (ICRSs) performed concurrently versus sequentially. Patients (N = 198) were

STUDY IN BRIEF

► In a prospective randomized clinical trial, outcomes were equivalent whether CXL was performed immediately or 3 months after the placement of intrastromal corneal ring segments (ICRSs) for the treatment of keratoconus. No reduction in safety was observed.

WHY IT MATTERS

Whether to perform ICRS placement and CXL at the same sitting or sequentially has long been a matter of debate. Based on the results of this study, surgeons can perform ICRS placement and CXL immediately sequentially and thereby hasten patients' visual recovery, offer them greater convenience, and increase cost-efficiency.

randomly assigned to undergo either ICRS implantation followed immediately by CXL during the same session (n = 104) or ICRS placement followed by CXL 3 months later (n = 94). Main outcome measures were changes in maximum keratometry and the topographic inferior-superior difference, maximum flattening of topographic keratometry, and changes in uncorrected distance visual acuity and corrected distance visual acuity. Analysis was conducted for the entire cohort, the two randomized groups, and subgroups stratified according to ICRS size and placement. Patients were observed for 6 months.

Maximum keratometry decreased by 2.50 D on average. The topographic inferior-superior difference improved by 3.90 D. The average maximum flattening of topographic keratometry was -7.50 D. Uncorrected distance visual acuity improved, on average, by 2.0 logMAR lines, and corrected distance visual acuity improved by 1.1 lines. The investigators found no significant difference in outcomes between the treatment groups.

DISCUSSION

Both ICRS and CXL have been used extensively for the treatment of keratoconus. CXL can halt disease progression,¹¹ whereas ICRSs remodel the cornea.¹²⁻²⁸ Combining the two procedures can therefore stop ectatic progression and improve visual acuity. A question long debated, however, is whether the procedures should be performed sequentially or consecutively.

Hersh et al found that both approaches provided equivalent outcomes without a reduction in safety when ICRS placement and CXL were performed at the same sitting. This has practical consequences for surgeons and their patients. Performing ICRS implantation and CXL concurrently saves time, is more cost-effective, and is more convenient for patients. ■

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