



RETINA CIRÚRGICA

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PREVALENCE OF EPIRETINAL MEMBRANE AFTER TRABECULECTOMY

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Introduction:

Epiretinal membrane (ERM) is a vitreomacular interface disorder that can lead to incapacitant metamorphopsia and decreased visual acuity. Most cases are termed idiopathic, however it has been associated with vascular retinal disorders, ocular trauma and inflammation, cataract or retinal detachment surgeries, cryopexy and laser procedures. As far as we know, there are no published studies of ERM prevalence after trabeculectomy. The purpose of our study was to determine ERM prevalence in eyes submitted to trabeculectomy.

Methods:

We conducted a retrospective study in patients submitted to trabeculectomy with at least 6-month follow-up. Ophthalmologic examination and spectral-domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT) were analysed. Eyes with previous surgical or laser treatments or other pathologies (besides glaucoma and ERM) were excluded.

Results:

A total of 50 eyes (40 patients) were included in this study. Mean follow-up time after surgery was 27,8 months. Nine eyes (18%) had preretinal fibrosis and 19 eyes (38%) cellophane reflex. Of the 16 eyes with preoperative SD-OCT, 3 (18,8%) developed ERM and 4 (25%) progressed from cellophane reflex to preretinal fibrosis. ERM prevalence did not differ significantly between eyes submitted to trabeculectomy with or without the use of antimetabolites ($p=0,08$), nor between eyes submitted to simple or combined surgery (Phaco-trabeculectomy) ($p=0,09$).

Conclusion:

Trabeculectomy may predisposes to the appearance and progression of ERM.