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GLAUCOMA

Posted on the OSN SuperSite April 7, 2009

Combined canaloplasty-phaco procedure shows reductions in medications, IOP

SAN FRANCISCO — Performing canaloplasty in combination with phacoemulsification surgery resulted in good medication and IOP reduction in open-angle glaucoma patients, 2-year interim results of a multicenter study found.

"The 24-month data of combined phaco-canaloplasty is encouraging in that the sustained reduction of a significant amount has maintained for that 24-month period, and also, [there is a] profound decrease in the need for glaucoma medications," Bradford J. Shingleton, MD, said at the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery meeting here.

Dr. Shingleton presented interim results of the prospective 3-year study of open-angle glaucoma patients who underwent combined phaco and canaloplasty. The 24-month data examined 23 patients.

Story continues below ↓

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Clinicians found that, at 24 months, patients had a 45% sustained reduction in IOP, at a mean of 13 mm Hg. Patients had an 85% sustained reduction in medications, at a mean of 0.2. In addition, patients had improved vision and no long-term complications after 3 months.

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The number of cataract and glaucoma cases is estimated to increase as the population ages, so physicians may need to take a closer look at the IOP-lowering effect of cataract extraction.

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