

Abstract 48

COMPARISON OF PAIN EXPERIENCE IN PATIENTS UNDERGOING SUB-TENON'S ANAESTHESIA VERSUS PERIBULBAR ANAESTHESIA DURING ELECTIVE VITREORETINAL SURGERY

Oral

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Purpose:

To assess and compare the patients' discomfort and pain experienced during anaesthesia, pars plana vitrectomy (PPV), and 24 hours postoperatively following sub-Tenon's injection (STI) versus peribulbar block (PB) in elective vitreoretinal surgery.

Methods:

Retrospective study involving Eighty patients who underwent elective vitreoretinal surgery receiving either PB (group 1, n=40) or STI (group 2, n= 40) between January 2021 and March 2022. Patients' pain experienced during the procedure and 24 hours postoperatively were assessed using a pain scale and a two-section questionnaire. One hour postoperatively, patients were asked to rate the level of pain they felt during the entire procedure by pointing at a 0–100 Visual Analogue Scale (VAS). Subsequently, patients answered a two-section questionnaire regarding pain and discomfort felt 24 hours postoperatively.

Results:

According to VAS measurements, patients experienced significantly more pain during PB than during STI one hour after surgery. Patients undergoing PB experienced more pain than those who underwent STI, experiencing burning and discharge feeling. Patients undergoing STI had a lower pain level score 24 hours post-operatively despite similar discomfort.

Conclusions:

STI has a lower pain score than PB during the procedure and 24 hours postoperatively, representing a valuable procedure to deliver analgesia in vitreoretinal surgery.