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TRANSSCLERAL CYCLOPHOTOCOAGULATION WITH DIODE LASER FOR REFRACTORY GLAUCOMA. OUR EXPERIENCE

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Purpose: Cyclodestructive procedures have been successfully used in the treatment of refractory glaucoma. The goal of this study is to describe our experience with micropulse transscleral cyclophotocoagulation (MP3- TSCPC) in our patients with uncontrolled glaucoma.

Methods: This is a retrospective view of the cases treated with TSCPC in our ophthalmology service. We treated 10 patients with uncontrolled glaucoma, 6 of them with neovascular glaucoma, 2 refractory glaucoma, one had previous retina surgery and one refractory glaucoma. Laser settings were 2000mW of diode laser on micropulse delivery mode during 240 seconds placed over 270° of the limbus. The mean follow-up was 6 months heretofore. Surgical success was defined as a reduction of intraocular pressure (IOP) by 20 %. We visited our patients at 24 hours, 1st and 4th weeks and 3rd-6th month.

Results: The mean preoperative intraocular pressure was 39.2 mmHg. Significant IOP reduction was observed during the first week after treatment. 2 patients with painful eyes had pain relief. Patients with higher preoperative IOP suffered a new rise of IOP at first month; two of them underwent a second treatment. At the 6th month we have observed a significant IOP reduction in 8 of the 10 patients.

Conclusions: Traditionally, TSCPC is reserved for end-stage. We have observed that patients tolerate the procedure very well, and relieve ocular pain due to high IOP. This study suggest that micropulse diode transscleral cyclophotocoagulation can be used successfully to reduce intraocular pressure in the treatment of refractory glaucoma.