

## **Sutureless 20 gauge vitrectomy**

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### **Advantages:**

Sutureless Transconjunctival 20 Gauge Vitrectomy (20G STV) is a modified technique that minimizes the surgical trauma, reduces the operating time and the postoperative inflammation.

### **Methods:**

Conjunctival diathermy over the ports before sclerostomy produces adhesions adequate to stop transoperative conjunctival chemosis and bleeding of the conjunctival vessels. Then the MVR blade is introduced into the conjunctivasclera in a very bevelled direction. The tunnel incision that is created is left without a suture at the end of the operation.

### **Effectiveness / Safety:**

Hypotony was encountered in 3,5% of the patients (2-6mmHg) on day 1 but was normalised 3 days later. No other serious complications occurred as a result of this novel transconjunctival approach. Also there were no differences in visual acuity, intraocular pressure, redetachments, or inflammations between the patients undergoing this technique and the patients having the conventional 20 gauge pars plana technique. Conjunctival diathermy over the side ports before sclerostomy may offer protection against endophthalmitis due to sterilisation of the conjunctiva.

### **Take home message:**

20G STV is a safe and practical technique for the full spectrum of vitreoretinal surgery. It makes surgery quicker and is well tolerated by patients.