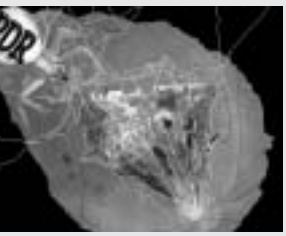

The main outcomes of combined phacoemulsification (PHACO), posterior chamber intraocular lens implantation (PCIOL) and pars plana vitrectomy (PPV) in patients with proliferative diabetic retinopathy

Author: Baris Yeniad, MD, Tunç Ovali, MD, Samuray Tuncer, MD, Nur Kir, MD, Istanbul University, Istanbul Faculty of Medicine, Department of Ophthalmology, Turkey

Purpose:
To evaluate the results of combined PHACO, implantation of PCIOL and PPV in patients with cataract and proliferative diabetic retinopathy.

Methods:
Sixteen eyes of thirteen patients who underwent combined PHACO, implantation of PCIOL and PPV between June 2002-December 2003 at Retina Service, Department of Ophthalmology, Istanbul Faculty of Medicine were retrospectively reviewed.

Results:
The mean age was 67.53 years and the mean follow-up time was 8 months. During the surgery PHACO and PCIOL implantation was performed before the PPV in all patients. PHACO was converted to extracapsular cataract extraction (ECCE) because of radial tear on the anterior capsule in 1 patient. Of sixteen eyes, fourteen eyes had in- the- bag PCIOL and 2 had sulcus PCIOL because of posterior capsule rupture. Postoperative complications included fibrin reaction in anterior chamber in 1 (6%) eye, secondary glaucoma in 6 (46%) eyes, posterior synechia in 2 eyes (12.5%), posterior capsule opacification in 2 eyes (12.5%), vitreous hemorrhage in 4 (25%) eyes, reproliferation and retinal detachment in 1 (6%) eye, epiretinal membrane in 2 (12.5%) eyes. Final visual acuity ranged from light perception to 0.7. In 9 (56.2%) eyes visual acuity improved. The most common causes for reduced visual acuity were optic atrophy, macular scar and macular edema.

Conclusion:
Combined PHACO, insertion of PCIOL and PPV allow early visual rehabilitation and prevent an additional surgery trauma for the patient.

Take-home message:
Combined surgery can be preferred in selected diabetic patients with co-existing cataract. But visual outcomes and complications are releated with underlying retinal pathology.