

Surgical management of complicated diabetic retinal detachment by simple vitrectomy techniques

Author: Khaled el-Rakhawy

Background:

Several surgical techniques, varying from simple to more complex, can be used to manage complicated diabetic retinal detachment. A variety of manual and automated scissors, forceps, pics, tissue manipulators as well as several methods of illumination are available for these cases.

Methods:

141 eyes with complicated traction retinal detachment were operated in the past 3 years. All eyes had either 1) thick and extensive posterior fibrovascular membranes with several epicentres often involving the macula, or 2) combined traction and rhegmatogenous retinal detachment.

Results:

It was possible to remove the offending fibrovascular membranes and to achieve intra-operative retinal reattachment in 133 eyes (94.3%). We used simple instruments in a mostly unimanual approach to achieve the same surgical objectives achievable by more complex techniques and instrumentations.

Conclusion:

An excellent surgical outcome can be achieved using rather simple instruments and techniques.

