

# Conjunctiva-Related Glaucoma Surgery Complications Following Anterior Versus Posterior Approach Ptosis Repair

Ohio Ophthalmological Society Annual Meeting March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Alexander Engelmann, MD; Suraj Bala, BS; Catherine Hwang, MD; Julian Perry, MD **Cleveland Clinic Foundation Cole Eye Institute** 



### Disclosures

• No relevant conflicts of interest or relationships to disclose, financial or otherwise.





## Objective

• Review retrospective data from eyes that underwent glaucoma drainage surgery following ptosis repair.

#### Cleveland Clinic Cole Eye Institute

## **Clinical Question**

- Should a surgeon consider the likelihood of a patient undergoing glaucoma filtration surgery when planning ptosis repair?
  - Does shortening the superior fornix increase the likelihood of a blebrelated complication with future glaucoma surgeries involving the conjunctiva?



Sajja K, Putterman AM. Müller's Muscle Conjunctival Resection Ptosis Repair in the Aesthetic Patient. Saudi Journal of Ophthalmology



## Background

- Collaborative Initial Glaucoma Treatment Study (CIGTS)
  - 12% trabeculectomy intraoperative complications
    - 1% conjunctival buttonhole
  - 50% trabeculectomy early post-operative complications
    - 13% shallow/flat anterior chamber
- Tube Versus Trabeculectomy Study (TVT)
  - 7% and 10% intraop complications for tube and trab respectively
    - 2% and 3% conjunctival buttonhole
  - 34% and 57% early post-operative complications
    - 1% & 13% wound/bleb leak, 11% & 12% shallow/flat anterior chamber
- Posterior approach ptosis repair (MMCR, CML)
  - 6-9 mm conjunctiva resected

Jampel et al. Am J Ophthalmol. 2005; Gedde et al. Am J Ophthalmol. 2007; Pornpanich et al. Nature. 2023



## Study

- Retrospective cohort study including patients seen at the Cole Eye Institute between 2010 and 2025
- Inclusion Criteria
  - Eye with history of ptosis repair undergoing glaucoma drainage surgery (tube shunt, trabeculectomy, subconj filtration stent)
  - Age >/=18
  - At least 6 weeks of follow-up following glaucoma surgery
- Exclusion Criteria
  - History of ocular or periorbital trauma
  - History of surgery involving conjunctiva besides glaucoma surgery or ptosis repair
- Primary Outcomes
  - Intraop complication rate
  - Post-op bleb-related complication rate



## Demographics

Anterior Approact	h (n=17) Posterior Approach (n=18)
Gender	
Female 56%	56%
Male 44%	44%
Ethnicity	
Caucasian 70.6%	66.7%
African American 17.6%	27.8%
Asian/Pacific Islander 5.9%	5.5%
Hispanic 5.9%	0%
Age at Glaucoma Surgery (yrs)72.1 (SD 13)	3.9) 77.6 (SD 6.2)
Laterality (0D)58.8%	50.0%
Time Between Surgeries (yrs)4.2 (SD 3.7)	) 4.9 (SD 3.4)
Follow-up Length (yrs)5.2 (SD 3.8)	) 8.2 (SD 3.0)



## Results

Eyes with Prior Ptosis Repair Undergoing Glaucoma Drainage Surgery				
	Anterior (n=17)	Posterior (n=18)		
Severity of Glaucoma				
Advanced	<mark>77%</mark>	67%		
Moderate	23%	33%		
Glaucoma Diagnosis				
PDAG	50%	<mark>72.2%</mark>		
SDAG	17.6%	22.2%		
SACG	<mark>29.4%</mark>	5.6%		
Glaucoma Surgery				
Tube Shunt	41.2%	66.7%		
Trabeculectomy	<mark>47.1%</mark>	16.7%		
Subconj Filtration Stent	17.7%	16.6%		
Prior Ocular Surgery	76.5%	66.7%		
Phaco	52.9%	44.4%		
MIGS	5.8%	22%		
PPV	17.6%	11.1%		
Corneal Transplant	11.8%	11.1%		



## Results

Eyes with Prior Ptosis Repair Undergoing Glaucoma Drainage Surgery					
	Anterior (n=17)	Posterior (n=18)	<u>Fisher's Exact Test</u> <u>P-Value</u>		
Conjunctiva-Related Intraop Complication	5.9%	5.6%	0.514		
Conjunctiva-related Post-op Complication	11.8%	5.6%	0.374		
Subsequent Glaucoma Surgery	35.3%	16.7%	0.143		
Subsequent Ptosis Surgery	<b>23.5</b> %	0%	0.045		



#### Interpretation

- No increased complication rate for eyes undergoing posterior approach ptosis repair prior to glaucoma drainage surgery
- Eyes that underwent anterior approach ptosis repair prior to glaucoma surgery were more likely to have repeat ptosis repair

#### Limitations:

- "Sicker eyes"
  - A greater percentage of eyes that underwent anterior approach ptosis repair carried diagnoses of severe and secondary glaucomas



## Thank You

- Special thanks to Drs. JD Perry and Cathy Hwang
- Questions or Comments?



### References

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#### Discussion

- Does history of posterior approach ptosis repair impact glaucoma surgical planning?
- Do you alter your approach to ptosis repair for patients with moderate or severe glaucoma?
- Are there additional glaucoma surgeries that depend on conjunctiva availability?