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Amniotic membrane plus conjunctival autograft for pterygia**Jose Bonifacio Barbosa Jr**

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Purpose: To compare amniotic membrane associated with conjunctival autograft versus conjunctival autograft alone in the treatment of recurrent pterygia.

Methods: Patients with recurrent pterygia without symblepharon were randomly assigned to undertake pterygium excision followed by amniotic membrane associated with a small conjunctival autograft (2x3mm) or conjunctival autograft (approximately 5x8mm) alone. The patients were examined after 1, 7, 30, 90, 180 and 360 days after the surgery. Recurrence was considered as a fibrovascular ingrowth of 1.5 mm or more beyond the limbus with conjunctival drag.

Results: Forty eyes of 38 patients with recurrent pterygium were included. Nineteen patients (50%) were female and nineteen (50%) were male. The mean patients' age was 46,8 years old (range between 23 and 69 years old). Twenty one patients underwent amniotic membrane associated with conjunctival autograft and nineteen patients underwent conjunctival

autograft alone. All patients were treated by the same surgeon. The follow up time was 12 months in 30 patients and 6 months in 10 patients. Recurrence was diagnosed in 6 patients [4 in the amniotic membrane group (21,5%) and 2 in the conjunctival autograft group (9,52%)]. Complication (conjunctival granuloma) was observed in one case after 14 days of the surgery.

Conclusions: Our results showed that both, amniotic membrane associated with conjunctival autograft and conjunctival autograft alone, presented low rate of recurrence and complications and are good treatment options for recurrent pterygium.

Speaker Biography

Jose Bonifacio Barbosa Jr is currently working as an ophthalmology consultant in UDI Hospital, Sao Paulo, Brazil. His research interests include cornea, refractive surgery and ocular external diseases etc. He is serving as an editorial member and reviewer in several international reputed journals. He is also a member of many international affiliations. He has authored many research articles/books related to his research interest.

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