

Introduction to Interventional Glaucoma Richard Trevino, OD, FAAO Indiana University School of Optometry

Online Notes

richardtrevino.net

Email me • rctrevin@iu.edu

Disclosures

• None



What is Interventional Glaucoma?No single definition

"Interventional Glaucoma is procedural glaucoma, or an innocuous way of saying surgery."

Steven R. SarkisianOklahoma Eye Surgeons



What is Interventional Glaucoma?No single definition

"The appropriate use of any and all medical, laser, or surgical therapies required to slow or halt the progression of glaucoma"

– Leonard K. SeiboldUniversity of Colorado



What is Interventional Glaucoma?

• No single definition

"A mindset that encourages the physician to break free from the constraints of programmed, stepwise treatment and instead consider the patient, his or her disease, and his or her preferences."

– Ian ConnerUniversity of Pittsburgh



What is Interventional Glaucoma?

It's about having options!



Patients have a choice in how best to manage their glaucoma



SLT involves the application of a low energy, Q-switched, frequency-doubled Nd:YAG laser (532nm) to the TM



Image courtesy of Ellex Inc





SLT lowers IOP by \geq 20% in 60%-95% of eyes at lyr



Source: PMID 32672601, 31028768, 31444008





Experience at RSO

55 eyes of 35 subjects

Washed out prior to SLT

70% of subjects required no additional therapy over 3yrs

Source: ARVO abstract





Source: PMID 29303146, 32005561

Direct Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty



Automated Direct Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty

Low-energy Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty Repeated Annually: Rationale for the COAST Trial

> Tony Realini, MD, MPH,* Gus Gazzard, MD,†‡ Mark Latina, MD,§ and Michael Kass, MD§||

"Clarifying the Optimal Application of SLT Therapy"

- 100 spots over 360° delivered at 0.3-0.4mJ per spot
- Procedure is repeated q 12 mos if IOP is controlled
- "[Can we] <u>preserve</u> TM cells and <u>maintain</u> TM health rather than await glaucomatous TM reimpairment before <u>rescuing</u> impaired TM cells [with SLT]?"

LiGHT Study – SLT as first-line therapy

	MEDS FIRST	LASER FIRST	
Visits @ Target IOP	91.3%	93.0%	P = 0.04
Progression (all)	36 (5.8%)	23 (3.8%)	P = 0.05
Cataract Extraction	25 (4%)	13 (2.1%)	P = 0.05
Trabeculectomy	11 (1.8%)	0	P = 0.001
Treatment Escalations	348	299	

"Laser-first gave drop-free disease control at stringent target IOPs, lower trabeculectomy rates, less glaucoma progression, and lower cost in ³/₄ *of patients at 3 years"*

IG: Trabeculoplasty vs Medication

	SLT	MEDS
Effectiveness	Very Good Retreat failures	Very Good Compliance issues
Safety	Excellent Loss to follow-up	Very Good Adverse effects
Cost	Good Medicare: \$251	Good Generic PGA: \$10-20
QOL	Excellent Drop-free control	Fair Daily instillation

IG: Trabeculoplasty vs Medication

Key Points

- Both treatment options are highly effective and safe
- The potential of achieving drop-free disease control with SLT is a major deciding factor for many patients
- Which option do you recommend to your patients?









- A group of surgical treatments that utilize an abinterno approach
- For mild to moderate glaucoma
- Performed with or without cataract surgery
- Often includes the use of an implant

Trade-off between safety and efficacy

- MIGS: High safety, low efficacy
- Trabs/Tubes: High efficacy, low safety



Pros

- Minimally traumatic, especially during cataract sx
- Good short-term safety profile
- Reduced medication burden

Cons

- Intraocular surgical procedure
- Little long-term experience
- Relative merit of various procedures untested



iStent

- TM bypass device
- First approved in 2012
- Second generation (iStent Inject) in 2016
- Preferred placement location unclear
- Optimal number of implants unclear, many surgeons place 2/eye



Kahook Dual Blade

- TM excision procedure
- FDA approved in 2015
- "Unroof" Schlemm's canal
- More complete removal of TM than other procedures
- Standalone or during cataract surgery



Ab-interno Canaloplasty

- Schlemm's canal dilation procedure
- FDA approved in 2008 as a stand-alone procedure
- Inject viscoelastic into Schlemm's canal using a catheter



Cypass

- Suprachoroidal drainage device
- FDA approved in 2016
- Withdrawn from market in 2018 due to high rates of corneal endothelial cell loss



Xen Gel Stent

- Bleb-forming device
- FDA approved in 2016.
- Stent bypasses TM and Schlemm's canal to drain subconjunctivally forming a bleb



Explosive growth of MIGS procedures performed in USA



400% increase in the number of MIGs procedures >75% are performed by non-glaucoma specialists



REVIEW ARTICLE

OPEN

Minimally Invasive Glaucoma Surgery: Where Is the Evidence?

Kevin Gillmann, MBBS, FEBOphth, MArch* and Kaweh Mansouri, MD, MPH*†

"Only few studies compare different MIGS techniques and even fewer assess MIGS against criterion standard treatments." (2020)



Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

Ab interno trabecular bypass surgery with iStent for open-angle glaucoma (Review)

Le JT, Bicket AK, Wang L, Li T

"There is very low-quality evidence that treatment with iStent may result in higher proportions of participants who are drop-free or achieving better IOP control, in the short, medium, or long-term." (2019)

Cataract Surgery and IOP in Glaucoma

- OHTS (2012): Mean decrease in IOP of 17%, with 40% of eyes experiencing at least a 20% decrease.
 - Lowest tertile IOP: 11% decrease
 - Highest tertile IOP: 23% decrease
- AAO meta-analysis (2015): Mean 13% reduction at 1 year in patients with medically controlled POAG
- Armstrong meta-analysis (2017): ECCE lowered IOP at 36 months, but the effect waned after 24 months.

Source: PMID 22608478, 25943711, 28333892

Samuelson (2019)

- RCT of cataract surgery with/without iStent Inject
- Mild-moderate POAG (n = 505 eyes)
- Unmedicated IOP at 24 months
- ≥20% reduction from baseline:
 - iStent Inject: 76%, Control: 62%
- Mean change from baseline:
 - iStent Inject: 7.0 ±4.0 mmHg, Control: 5.4 ±3.7 mmHg

- Best (2019)
 - Single-center RCT of cataract surgery with/without iStent Inject
 - Mild-moderate POAG on ≥2 meds (n = 65 eyes)
 - Mean follow-up 14 months
 - Change in medicated post-op IOP
 - iStent Inject: 24%, Control: 10%
 - Change in number of medications at 4 months
 - iStent Inject: 1.3 \downarrow , Control: 0.5 \downarrow

	ECCE + iStent	ECCE
Effectiveness	Good Little high-quality data	Fair 10%-20% ↓IOP
Safety	Excellent Mild and transient	Excellent Low risk of vision loss
Cost	Good Medicare: \$683	Good Medicare: \$548
QOL	Very Good ↓Medication burden	Very Good ↓Medication burden

- **Key Points**
- Little high-quality research to support effectiveness, relative merits, or cost-benefit of MIGS
- iStent associated with low risk but also low benefit
- Which option do you recommend to your patients?



Relative pupil block is relieved by an iridotomy



Not all angle closure is due to pupil block

NOT MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE







Pupil block

Iridotomy Lens removal Plateau iris

Iridotomy Iridoplasty Lens vault

Lens Removal



Indentation Gonioscopy Findings



Who Needs Treatment? **Angle Closure Stages** Angle closure suspect Closure is possible ? Occludable angles +/- symptoms, no PAS, normal IOP Closure has occurred Primary angle closure Peripheral anterior synechia **Elevation of IOP** Angle closure glaucoma Vision loss has occurred

Angle Closure Suspects

To treat or not to treat, that is the question!!

- Symptomatic
- Evidence of prior closure
- ACD < 2.0mm
- Strong family history

- Predisposing systemic meds
- Poor F/U compliance
- Difficulty in accessing immediate care (nursing home, etc.)

Treatment is often needed after

	LPI		
Narrow Angle	Open Angle		ANGLE CLOSURE
Additional surgery	Treatment same as	ANGLE CLOSURE RESOLVED BV I DI	PERSISTS
needed Iridoplasty, lens extraction,	OAG "Mixed mechanism		GLAUCOMA
synechialysis, etc.	glaucoma"		





- Numerous studies document increased angle depth, decreased PAS, and lower IOP following lens extraction in eyes with PAC and PACG
- Angle depth increase and IOP reduction are greater following lens extraction than LPI
- Eyes with uncontrolled PACG and a patent LPI experience significant IOP reduction following lens extraction

EAGLE (2016)

- RCT of clear lens extraction vs LPI in PAC and PACG
- All subjects were >50yo without cataract (n = 419)
- PAC subjects must have IOP >30 mmHg
- Mean change from baseline at 36 months:
 - Phaco: 12.9 mmHg, LPI: 12.4 mmHg
- Medication-free at 36 months:
 - Phaco: 61%, LPI: 21%

	Phaco	LPI
Effectiveness	Excellent AC depth & IOP	Good 50% success
Safety	Excellent Low risk of vision loss	Excellent Mild and transient
Cost	Fair Cost-savings in 10yrs	Excellent Medicare: \$315
QOL	Excellent Vision improvement	Fair ↓Medication burden

- **Key Points**
- Both treatment options are safe and effective, but expect a greater treatment effect with lens extraction
- The visual gains following lens extraction are a major advantage of this option
- Which option do you recommend to your patients?



Thank You!