

## **THE USE OF IONTOPHORESIS IN CORNEAL COLLAGEN CROSS-LINKING TECHNIQUE**

A.H. Ontiveros<sup>1</sup>, P. Udaondo-Mirete<sup>2,2</sup>, S. García-Delpech<sup>2</sup>,  
E.S. Marco<sup>1</sup>, R. Diaz<sup>1</sup>, D. Salom<sup>1</sup>, A.C. Lanuza<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Ophthalmology, Hospital of Manises, Spain*

<sup>2</sup>*Ophthalmology, University and Polytechnic Hospital La Fe, Spain*

**Purpose:** To evaluate the effectiveness and the safety of transepithelial corneal collagen cross-linking by iontophoresis with corneal impregnation of riboflavin 0.1%. **Methods:** Transepithelial collagen cross-linking by iontophoresis of riboflavin was performed in 19 eyes of 16 patients, with progressive keratoconus (I-III Amsler classification). The riboflavin was administered by iontophoresis for 5 minutes (1 mA), and after a UVA irradiation (VEGA 10 mW) was performed for 9 minutes. **Results:** The treatment resulted in a decrease in the corneal astigmatism from 3.92 to 2.50 D. The average of the keratometry level decrease from 46.05 to 43.78 D and the Uncorrected distance visual acuity improved from 0.70 up to 0.43. **Conclusion:** Transepithelial collagen cross-linking by iontophoresis is an effective and safe method for riboflavin impregnation of the cornea stroma. With this method we reduce the duration of procedure being more comfortable for the patient.