SATISFACTION LEVEL WITH TOPICAL VERSUS PERIBULBAR ANESTHESIA EXPERIENCED BY SAME PATIENT FOR PHACOEMLUSIFICATION

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Aim of study was to determine satisfaction level in same patient who gets topical anesthesia in one eye and peribulbar block in another eye. Evaluation of patients' variable with satisfactory line will help better selection of cases for topical anesthesia in future. Methods: After approval of local IRB and informed patients consent, 80 patients scheduled for phacoemulsification were enrolled in prospective, randomized, double-blind study. Each patient scheduled twice for one eye under topical anesthesia and other in peribulbar block. For topical anesthesia, tetracaine hydrochloride 1% drops, lidocaine gel 2% were applied 15 minutes preoperatively. For peribulbar block infero-temporal and supero-medial injection (if needed) was given with 6-10 ml Bupivacaine 0.5% and lidocaine 2% in 2:3 volume mixes with 5 IU/ml hyaluronidase. Pain, discomfort and pressure during application of local anesthetic, during phacoemulsification and at 2 hours after procedure were assessed on standard scales. Before discharge patient satisfaction level was checked with Iowa satisfaction with anesthesia scale(ISAS). The student's t-test was used to determine the significance of IOWA score in both groups. Numerical data were analyzed using unpaired two tailed t-test, Chi-square test was used for categorical data. P value <0.05 was considered significant. Results: Patient satisfaction measured with ISAS shows that peribulbar anesthesia with P =0.000 is strongly significant. Intraoperative analgesia needed more in topical group (P = 0.014). Surgeons faced less difficulties in patients with peribulbar block (P= 0.046). In conclusion Peribulbar anesthesia provided significantly better patient satisfaction in comparison with topical anesthesia when used for cataract surgery.