

Visual outcome of Cataract Surgery in Patients with Uveitis

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Cataract is a common complication of chronic uveitis. Cataract extraction in patients with uveitis is not only technically difficult, but also has unpredictable visual outcome. We studied 16 eyes of 13 patients with chronic uveitis who underwent cataract extraction. 19% eyes improved to good visual acuity (616-6118), 62% attained borderline visual acuity (6124-6160), and 19% ended up with poor visual acuity (less than 6160). Main causes of poor visual outcome included posterior capsular opacification (31%), optic atrophy (25%), vitreous opacities (18.6%), cystoid macular oedema (12.5%) and hypotony (6.3%).

Recurrence of uveitis reduced from 87% to 58% after cataract extraction. We concluded that cataract extraction in patients with uveitis restores useful vision in the patients and also reduces the rate of recurrence.