

Visual Outcome of Photorefractive Keratectomy for Low to Moderate Myopia

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Department of Ophthalmology, Shaikh Zayed Hospital, Lahore

Purpose: To evaluate the visual outcome of photorefractive keratectomy (PRK) in low and moderate degree of myopia. **Material and Method:** Photorefractive keratectomy was performed on 134 eyes of 70 eligible patients. Preoperative assessment included the age of patient, need and motivation, complete anterior and posterior segment evaluation including intraocular pressure, uncorrected and best corrected visual acuity and manifest refraction. Cycloplegic refraction with atropine and corneal topography were done where required. PRK was done with Visx 20/20B 193 nm excimer laser machine. Evaluation was done on first postoperative day, fourth postoperative day, one week, one month, three month, six month and one year postoperative. In postoperative assessment uncorrected visual acuity, manifest refraction and intraocular pressure, slitlamp examination, complications and patients satisfaction level were recorded **Results:** After PRK mean spherical equivalent was decreased from -4.47D to -0.49D and mean uncorrected visual acuity improved from 6/60 to 6/8.2. Postoperatively uncorrected visual acuity was 6/12 or better in 92.53% of eyes and 62.68% was seeing 6/16 or better uncorrected after one year postoperatively. Of 70 patients 61.41% were happy with the visual outcome and on aggregate 81.41% were satisfied with their uncorrected visual acuity. No serious vision threatening complications were noted in one year post operated period. **Conclusion:** PRK is effective and safe method for the correction of low and moderate degrees of myopia in selective group of motivated patients.