Combined Trabeculectomy and Phacoemulsification
Versus Separate Procedures

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Combined Versus Separate

• Advantages of combining phaco and trab
• Disadvantages of combining surgeries

• Advantages of separating phaco and trab
• Disadvantages of separating surgeries
Combined Phacoemulsification and Trabeculectomy

- Advantages
  - Single visit to operating room
  - Addressing both cataract and glaucoma at the same time
  - Less combined recovery time versus two separate surgeries
  - Similar results to separate procedures
  - Less endothelial cell loss vs. two separate procedures (but more than trab alone)
Combined Phacoemulsification and Trabeculectomy (Cont.)

- Disadvantages
  - Longer operating time versus either alone
  - Longer recovery time versus either alone
  - More variables during surgery and recovery compared to either alone
  - Possibly less effective IOP control versus trab alone
Separate Trabeculectomy and Phacoemulsification

- Advantages
  - Focused on primary problem
    - Glaucoma - trabeculectomy
    - Cataract - phacoemulsification
  - Less O.R. time for trab or phaco versus combined
  - Possibly better glaucoma control if trab only
Separate Trabeculectomy and Phacoemulsification (Cont.)

- Disadvantages
  - Need for a second surgery later
  - More endothelial cell loss
  - More total time for recovery from two surgeries
  - Only addressing one problem at a time
  - Can lose effectiveness of trab if perform phaco soon after (less than one year, otherwise follows natural history of trab success)
Phaco-Trab Versus Separate Phaco and Trab

- Primary reason for performing surgery
  - Glaucoma
  - Cataract
- Current state of the patients glaucoma
- Visual acuity and visual potential
- Patients overall health and recovery needs
- Patient desires
- Long term goals
Primary Reason for Performing Surgery

• Glaucoma
  • Uncontrolled glaucoma
• Cataract
  • Poor visual acuity secondary to cataract
• Glaucoma and cataract equally
  • Not as common
Glaucoma as Primary Reason for Surgery

- What about the cataract?
  - Visual complaints
  - Visual acuity and potential
  - Cataract density
  - Patients overall health and recovery needs
  - If no cataract surgery now then potential need in the future
Cataract as Primary Reason for Surgery

- What about the glaucoma?
  - Type of glaucoma
  - Glaucoma severity
  - Current level of glaucoma control
  - Number of glaucoma medications
  - Patients overall health and recovery needs
  - If no glaucoma surgery now then potential need for surgery in the future
Cases for Panel

- Options are
  - Phaco-trab
  - Trab alone
  - Phaco alone
  - No surgery
Case 1

- 75 yo female with POAG
  - On MTMTx, target IOP 12, current IOP 20
  - Severe visual field loss and cupping
  - Otherwise healthy
  - Visual acuity 20/40, 2+NS
  - Some visual complaints
  - Other eye pseudophakic at 20/25 and at target IOP
Case 2

- 70 yo female with POAG
  - On MTMTx, target IOP 12, current IOP 12
  - Severe visual field loss and cupping
  - Otherwise healthy
  - Visual acuity 20/100, 3+NS
  - Significant visual complaints
  - Other eye is NLP
Case 3

- 85 yo male with POAG
  - On 2 meds, target IOP 15, current IOP 14
  - Moderate visual field loss and cupping
  - Otherwise healthy
  - Visual acuity 20/70, 3+NS
  - Significant visual complaints
  - Other eye pseudophakic at 20/25 and at target IOP
Case 4

- 95 yo male with POAG
  - On MTMTx, target IOP 15, current IOP 18
  - Moderate visual field loss and cupping
  - Moderately healthy for age
  - Visual acuity 20/40, 2+NS
  - Some visual complaints
  - Other eye NLP