

Cataract Surgery, What Type of Anesthesia ?

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Introduction

- ❖ Cataract surgery is one of the most commonly performed elective procedures.
- ❖ As it has developed into a rapid turn-over day case procedure, the options for anesthesia has also evolved.

- ▶ There are currently several options for cataract surgery anesthesia :
 - 1- General anesthesia.
 - 2- Regional anesthesia , including:
 - Retro bulbar block.
 - Peri bulbar block.
 - Sub-Tenon's injection.
 - Topical anesthesia.

Complications

- 1- Globe perforation.
- 2- Retro bulbar hemorrhage.
- 3- Optic nerve sheath injury.
- 4- Optic nerve atrophy.
- 5- Retinal vascular occlusion.
- 6- Extra ocular muscle palsy.
- 7- Brain stem anesthesia.
- 8- Convulsions.
- 9- Oculo-cardiac reflex.

What are the factors affecting my choices ?

- Type of patient.
- Eye related causes.
- Surgeon's skills and preference.

Topical Anesthesia

Advantages :

- 1- Cost- effective.
- 2- Rapid post-operative visual recovery.
- 3- Improve the operating conditions.
- 4- No risk of globe perforation.
- 5- Less vitreous pressure, and no effect on optic nerve blood flow.

How to prepare the patient ?

- Preoperative visit :
 - medical history and physical examination.
- Laboratory profile.
- Radiological imaging.

- ❖ Various techniques have been advocated to alleviate patient's discomfort with intra-operative manipulations when using topical anesthesia.

Take home message

- ❖ Tailoring the technique of anesthesia according to the intended procedure and the patient state is the best choice, aiming to provide the most suitable conditions for both the surgeon and the patient to get the best results.

Thank you