Two-year follow-up of routine usage of 5-fluor-uracil to “enhance” trabeculectomy
I. Kumar, L. Clearkin
Arrowe Park Hospital, Wirral, UK

Aim: Evaluate the efficacy and safety of routine use of 5-fluor-uracil (5-FU) to enhance trabeculectomy and to compare outcomes with the UK national survey of trabeculectomy of 2001 where an anti-metabolite was rarely used.

Methodology: A retrospective study of 22 eyes undergoing a modified Cairn’s trabeculectomy enhanced with (5-FU) from January 2007 to December 2007. Pre-operative and post operative intraocular pressure (IOP) at 2 weeks, 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 12 months, 18 months, 24 months and last follow up was evaluated, and complications attributable to surgery recorded. Complete success defined as IOP $\leq$ 15 mmHg without medication or any other intervention. Qualified success was defined as IOP $\leq$ 15 mmHg with up to 2 medications.

Results: Complete success was achieved in 77.2% of cases, with mean IOP at last follow-up (range 6 to 30 months) of 12.36 ± 4.39 mmHg.

Discussion: The national survey of trabeculectomy defined complete success as IOP $\leq$ 21 mmHg at 12 months follow up and was achieved in 84% of cases. However less than 50% of patients achieved IOP of less than 15 mmHg - probably because only 6.4% surgeries in that survey were enhanced with an anti-metabolite. This audit suggests that routine 5-FU enhancement of trabeculectomy is an effective technique significantly improving IOP control compared to the non-usage of 5-FU reported national survey. Safety was comparable and importantly 5-FU specific complications were not seen.