



Past and Present Scenario and History of Cataract Surgery

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Received: January 04, 2023

Published: April 01, 2023

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Cataract in Greek terminology known as water fall is one of the commonest global. Surgery done by almost all ophthalmologists and is perhaps the only surgical modality. Which ensures vision to a patient who can't see however to ensure success one has to take all the necessary precautions to ensure vision for this local focal and general causes have to be assessed and if present have to be taken care like if a patient of cataract has dm Hypertension Asthama and other medical issues they have to be treated before surgery local causes in eye like any kind of conjunctivitis and chronic dacryocystitis has to be taken care of. With recent advances in ophthalmology cataract surgery has undergone drastic changes we have now ophthalmic subspecialties like Laser, Laser glaucoma surgeon, and post segment surgeon, retinal, paediatric Ophthalmologist and neurophthalmologist and oculoplastic. Ancient and traditional surgery of cataract is fascinating and in present scenario will appear very crude. Long back the medicine and surgery was very primitive, no surgeons, no anaesthesia, we had Pack or pseudo eye surgeons who were known as couchers. They used to put a needle at the Limbus of a patient to dislocate the lens in the chamber in order to make pupillary area clear and this process was called 'coughing for some time' patient would see and was happy before complications would set in. Cataract was also removed by some instruments like Vectus, Erysofak.

Tumbling of lens also known as Smith Indian method, cryoextraction of lens, aspiration of lens by needle.

Then came the era of lens extraction by Argue's forceps with von Graefe's cataract knife, 180 degrees corneoscleral section was made and intra or extracapsular lens extraction was done in young

patients due to strong zonules of lens. Alpha-chymotrypsin was put in to dissolve zonules and then lens was removed.

Then came the era of IOL Implantation

- Ridley-Banchoffs AC IOLs
- SICS with AC IOL
- SICS with PC IOL
- Then came PHACO
- PHACI with PC IOL
- PHACO with foldable PC IOL
- PHACO with bifocal and trifocal foldable IOL
- Most Recent LENSAR Laser Assisted Surgery is Robotic.