Cataract: past, present & future

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Case Scenario Links

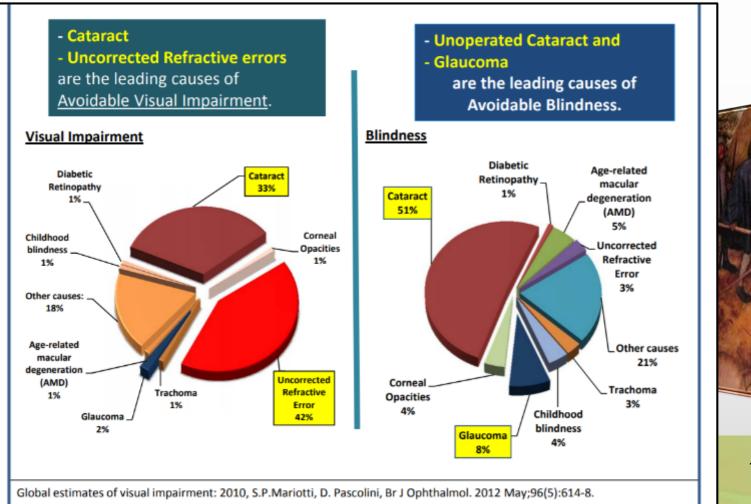
Cataract Surgery Past Present Future

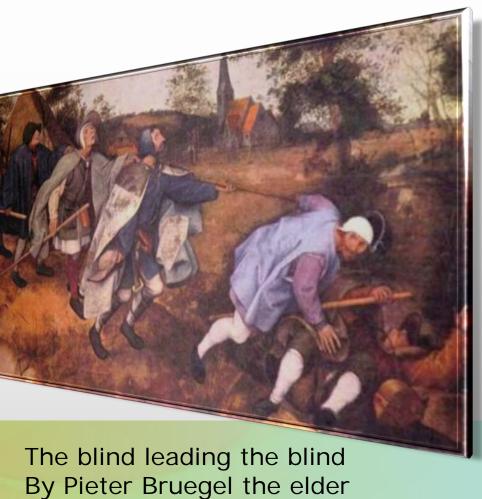
- Infant with an altered light reflex (Oph12)
- Gradual deterioration in visual acuity over time (Oph07)
 Type 2 diabetes mellitus (Endo11)
- 6 week check (Paed26)
- Family with a genetic disorder (MG02)



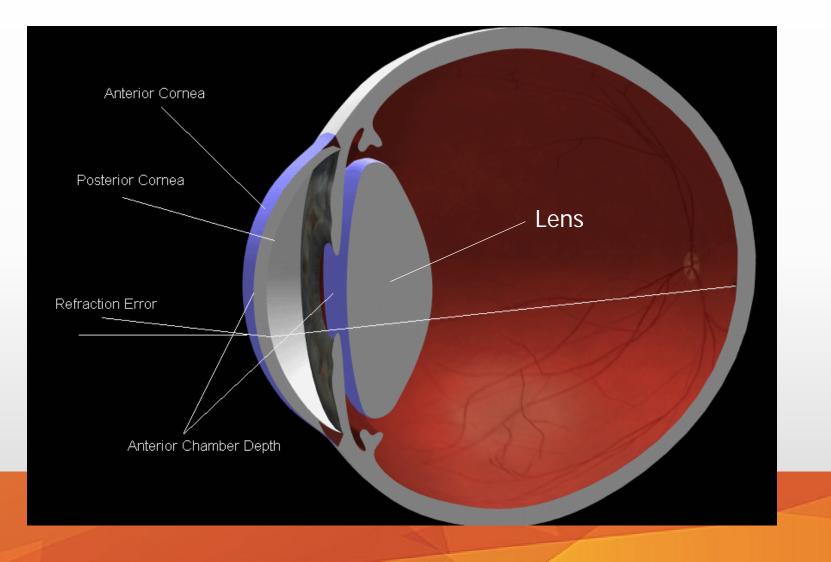
Cataract: blindness & visual impairment





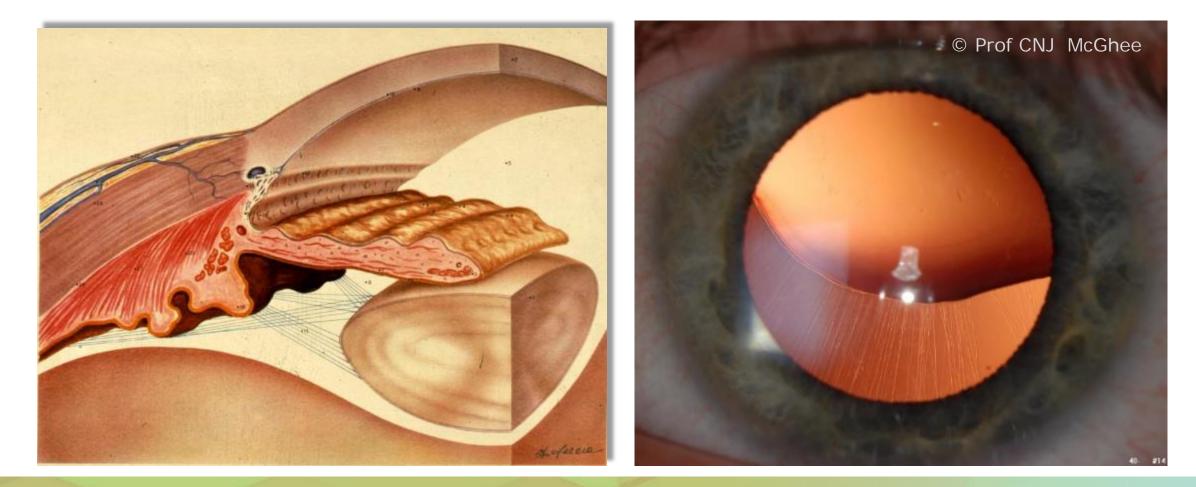


The Human Crystalline Lens





Basic anatomy: Lens and anterior segment



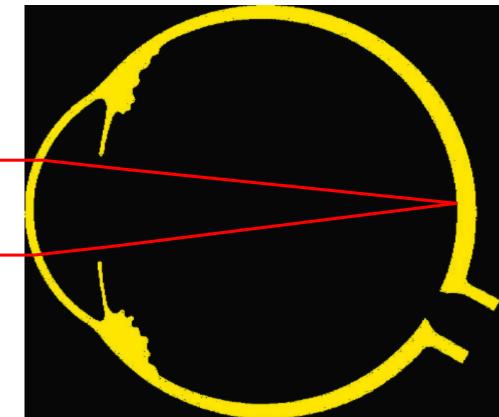


Cross section of anterior segment of the human eye showing lens suspended by fine zonules Ectopia lentis with upward luxation of the crystalline lens due to weakened & absent zonules (seen in lower pupil)

Simplified diagrammatic eye

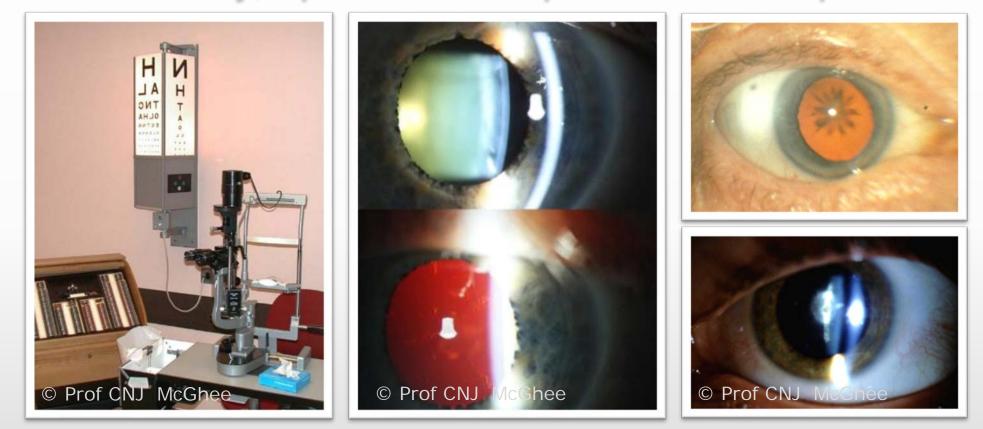
Eye has 2 principal focusing structures

- a) The cornea 2/3rd approximately 40 dioptres
- b) The crystalline lens 1/3rd approximately 20 dioptres
- c) If lens cataract is removed the focussing power (20D) needs to be replaced
- d) Historically lens power replaced by spectacles, in last 40 years mainly by intraocular lenses



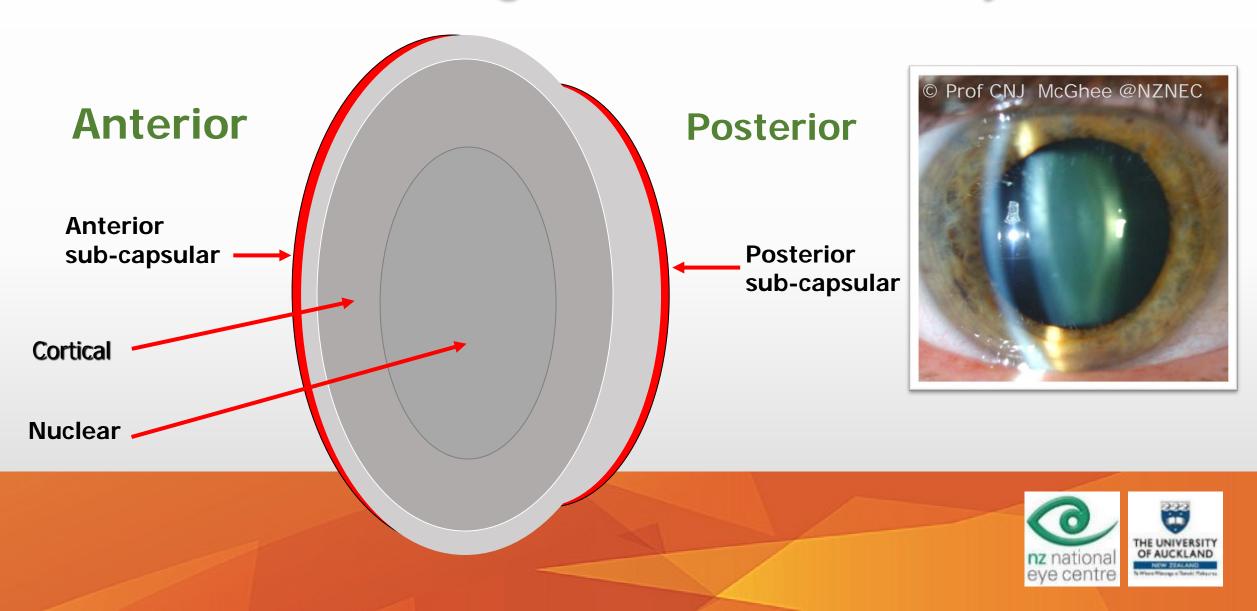


Cataract assessment: acuity, ophthalmoscope and slit lamp





Describing Cataract Anatomy



The global burden of cataract

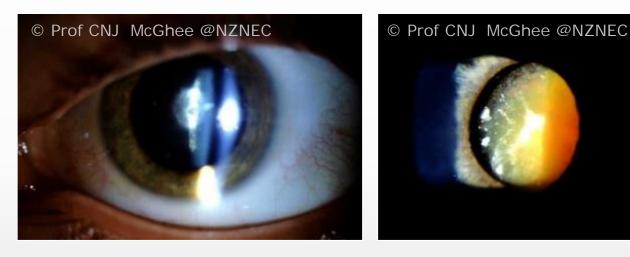
- 20 million blind globally classified as <6/30 2010 (WHO)
- Additional 2 million new cases per annum
- 90% of blindness in developing world 51% due to cataract
- >100 million severe visual impairment
- However only around 12 million cataract procedures per annum





Cataract- multiple aetiologies

- Congenital
- Inherited
- Age-related (the majority)
- Metabolic e.g. diabetes
- Toxic e.g. corticosteroids
- Traumatic e.g. irradiation
- Secondary e.g. ant. uveitis



Posterior polar cataract

Dense brunescent (advanced) cataract



Cataract aetiology in developing world: repeated dehydrational crises

British Journal of Ophthalmology, 1989, 73, 100-105

Dehydrational crises: a major risk factor in blinding cataract

D C MINASSIAN,' V MEHRA,' AND J-D VERREY'

From the 'International Centre for Eye Health, Institute of Ophthalmology, 27–29 Cayton Street, London ECIV 9EJ, and the ²Chattisgarh Eye Hospital, Fafadih, Raipur, MP, India

SUMMARY An earlier case control investigation has indicated a strong relationship between dehydrational crises and risk of presenile cataract. A second methodologically distinct case control study of risk factors in cataract has been carried out in a population very different in terms of environmental and sociocultural characteristics from the population investigated in the earlier study in Central India. The results strongly confirm the findings from the first study and indicate that an estimated 38% of blinding cataract may be attributable to repeated dehydrational crises resulting from severe life threatening diarrhoeal disease and/or heatstroke. The risk of blinding cataract was strongly related to level of exposure to dehydrational crises in a consistent and dose dependent manner, thus indicating a causal association. The findings are discussed in relation to possible sources of bias in the study, confounding in the data, and the steps that were taken to minimise their undesirable effects.



Breaking down barriers: a (R)evolution in cataract surgery





Cataract surgery: ancient to modern

Ancient Techniques

Couching

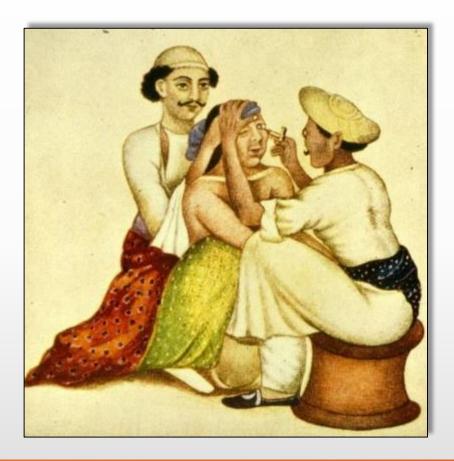
Current cataract extraction techniques

- 1. Intra-capsular now mainly in developing world
- 2. Extra-capsular some use in developed world
- 3. Phacoemulsification most popular technique





The ancient art of cataract surgery: India to Europe





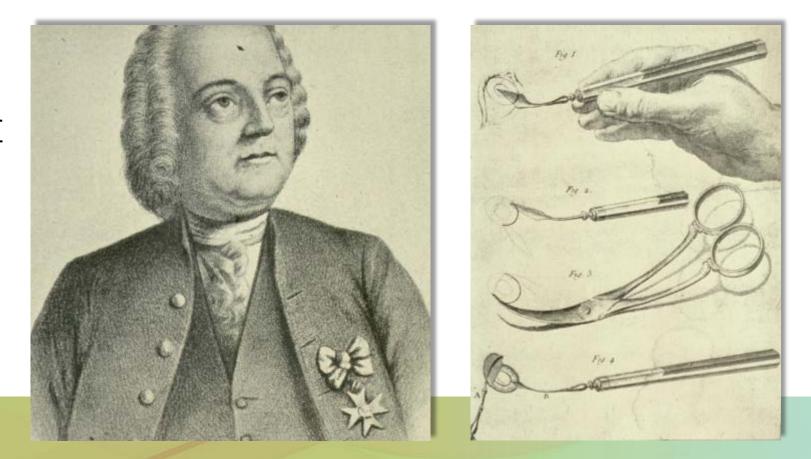




Couching of cataract has ancient origins in India – similar techniques shown in illustration of Roger of Salernin in 12th Century Italy

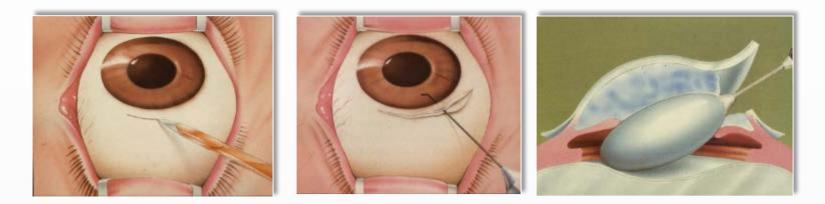
Origin of modern Cataract Surgery: 1750's Extra-capsular cataract (ECCE) surgery

Dr Jacques Daviel a French Ophthalmologist first described the ECCE technique in 1752 – and a variation of this technique was the mainsty of cataract surgery until 1990's

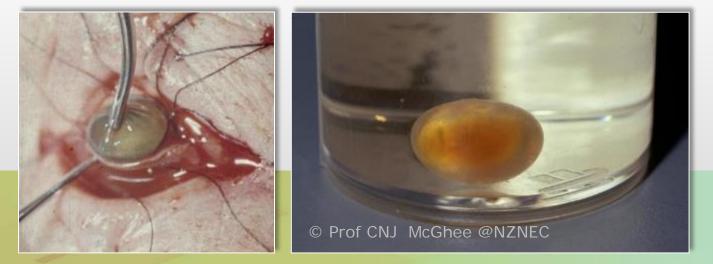




Intra-capsular cataract extraction (ICCE) the cataract (lens) is removed with the capsule

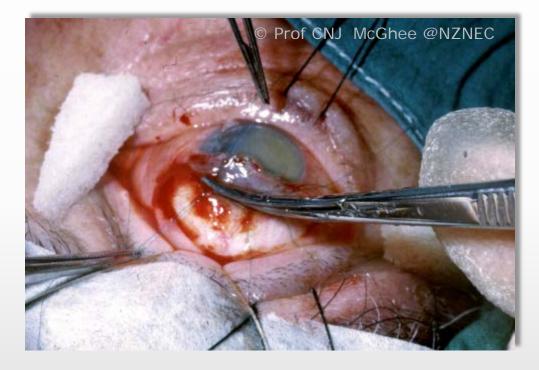


Still successfully performed in parts of developing world in 2020





Extra-capsular Cataract Surgery (ECCE) the cataract is removed leaving the lens capsule





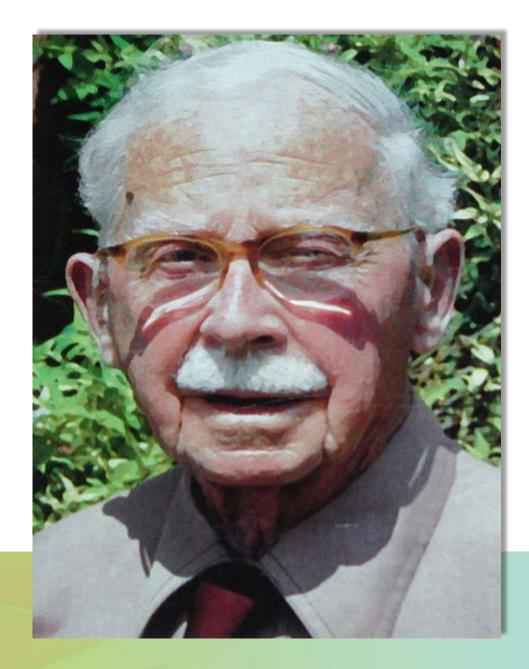




Intra-ocular lenses 1949

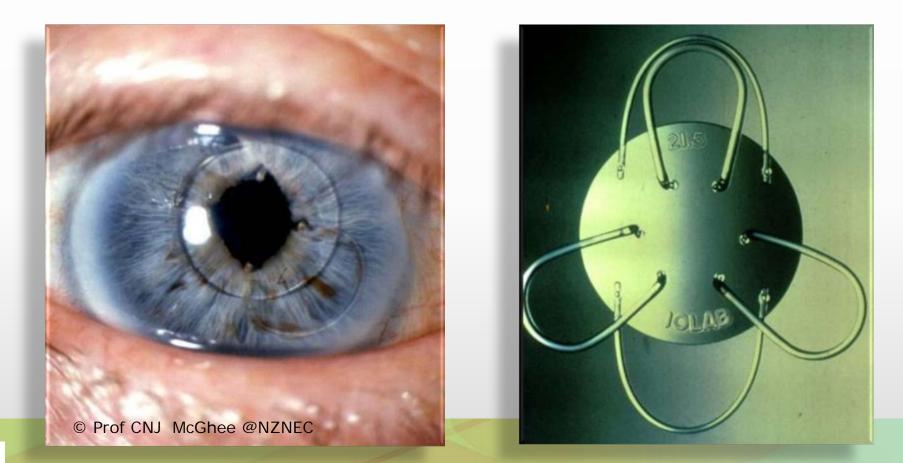
Sir Harold Ridley

Invented intra-ocular lenses (IOLs) and performed the first successful Surgery in Moorfields Eye Hospital, London, 1949





1970's Iris-clip intra-ocular lenses

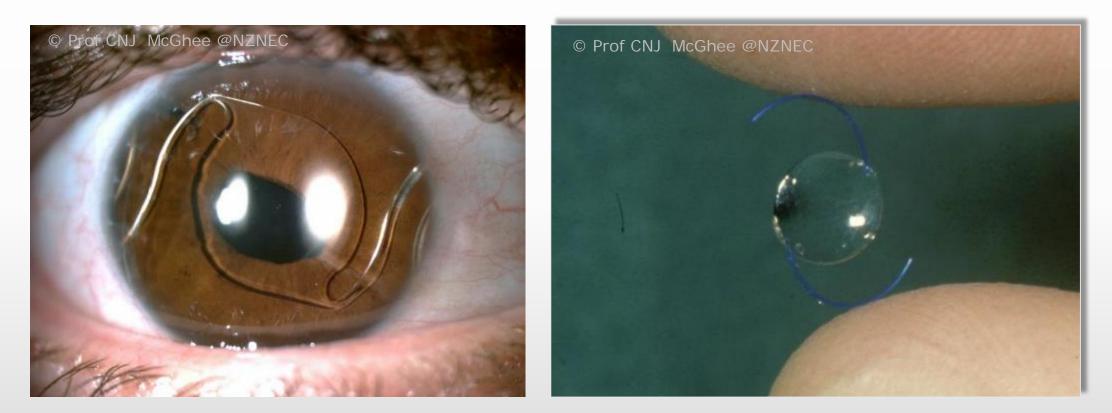




Iris clip lenses used when no capsular support e.g. after ICCE

1980's Intra-ocular lenses:

single piece anterior chamber IOLs & three piece posterior chamber IOL

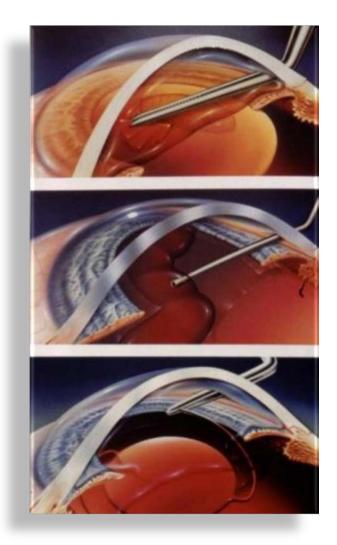


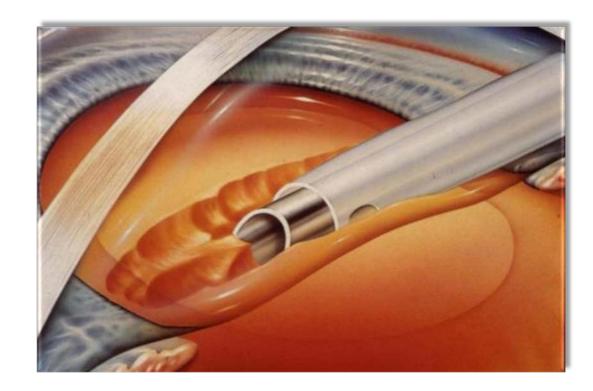




1990's: widespread acceptance of small incision phacoemulsification surgery







Use of high frequency ultrasound to emulsify cataract performed through a smaller incision (6mm verses traditional 10mm incision of ECCE procedures)

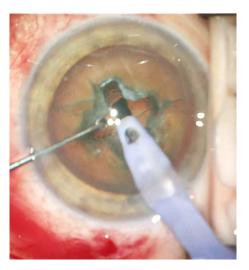


Phacoemulsification basics

Phacoemulsification (ultrasound) hand piece

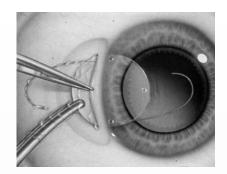
- Driven electrically Piezoelectric crystal vibrates ultrasonically
- Frequency 25,000 60,000 Hz
- Phaco "needle" is hollow (0.9mm) with central aspiration port
- Needle surrounded by soft irrigation sleeve with two ports which maintains fluid in anterior chamber
- Phacoemulfication tip has both a "jack-hammer" mechanical effect and a cavitation (acoustic) effect.



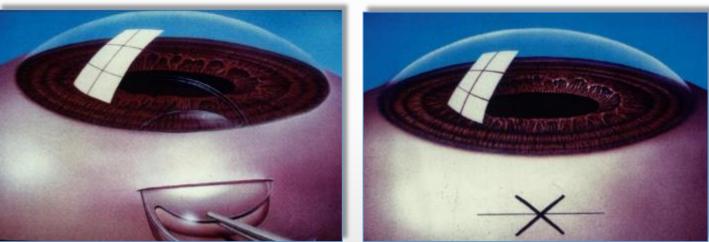




Superior scleral tunnel approach to phacoemulsification in 1990's







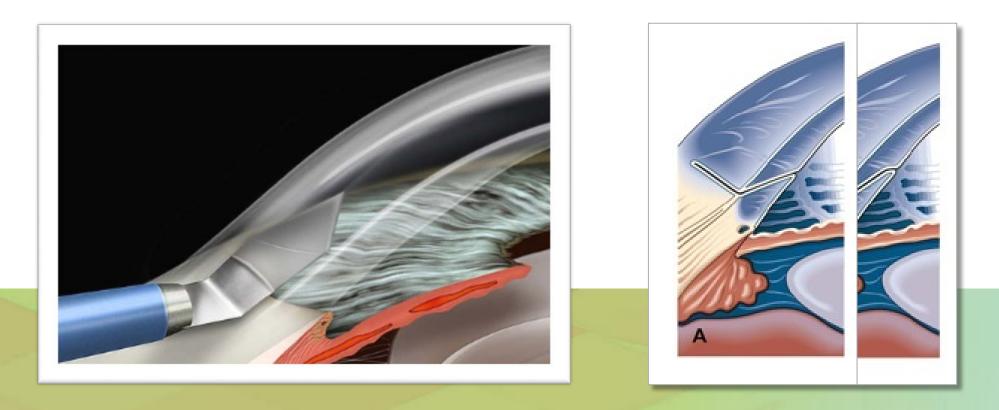


In early 1990's IOLs were typically **rigid** and therefore needed a larger (5-6mm) incision, further back on the sclera than contemporary incisions, and sutures

Contemporary corneal Incision structure

1, 2 or 3 step corneal incisions

- Quick, no bleeding, single instrument, typically no suture
- Enables topical anaesthetic, popular now 90% procedures



Late 1990's Intra-ocular lenses:

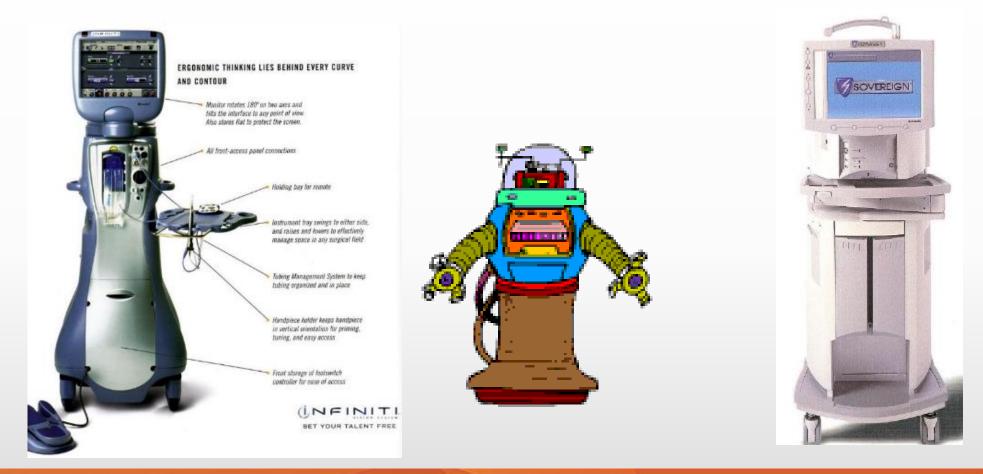
small incision phacoemulsification and the evolution of foldable or injectable Intraocular lenses



Folding or injecting the 6mm diameter IOL enables the incision size to be reduced to 3mm width for no-suture phacoemulsification with incisions moving from largely scleral to corneal based

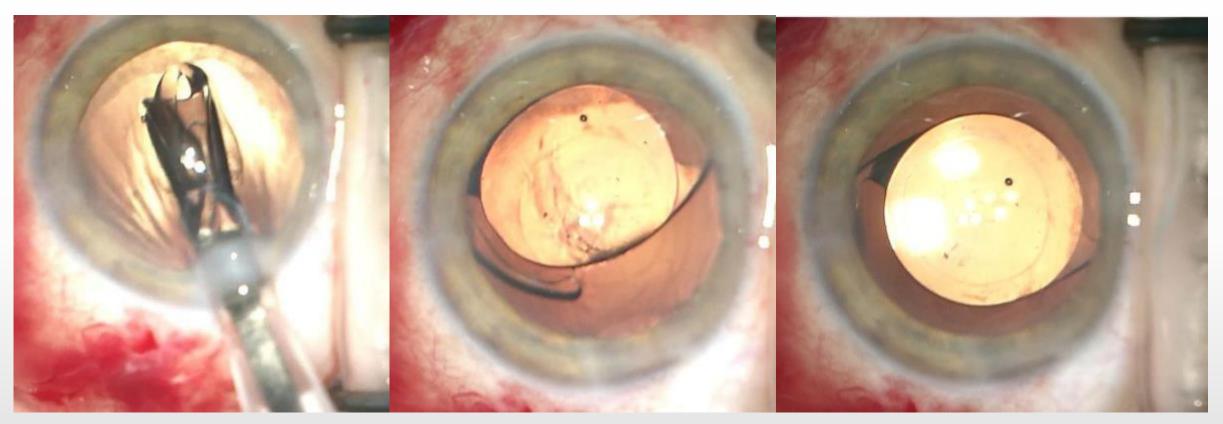


Complexity of phacoemulsification technology





Injecting a single piece IOL via corneal incision



Images © Prof CNJ McGhee @NZNEC





Complexity of phacoemulsification technology

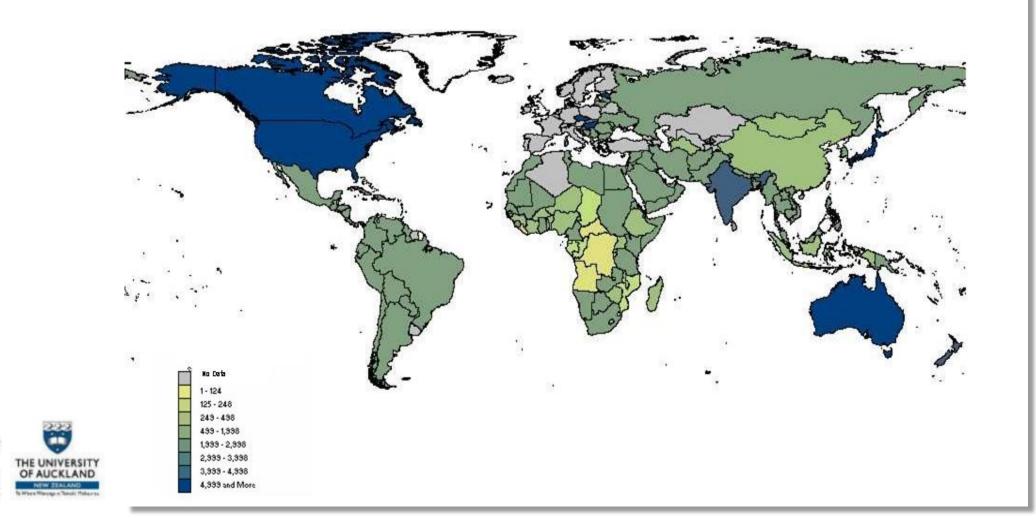
Phacoemulsification video





Cataract Surgery: varied global rates

Cataract Surgery Rate 2006



eye centre

Cataract presentation in a New Zealand perspective: Auckland Cataract Studies 2000 - 2020





The Auckland Cataract Studies

- The first ACS provided a prospective snapshot of 500 patients with cataract, cataract services, and state of the art surgical techniques in a public hospital service in the year 2000
- Also highlighted public cataract waiting list issues and access to appropriate government funded care in a major metropolitan area (now resolved)
- Results published in a series of scientific publications in the British Journal of Ophthalmology and Clinical and Experimental Ophthalmology



Evolution of NZ Cataract Prioritization Questionnaire

| • | Contralateral Eye | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------|------|-----------|------|------|------|--|
| A F | | 6/9 | 6/12 | 6/18 | 6/24 | 6/36 | 6/60 | CF/HM |
| F | 6/9 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| E C | 6/12 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 13 |
| T E | 6/18 | 2 | 8 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| E D | 6/24 | 9 | 9 | 15 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| E | 6/36 | 10 | 10 | 16 | 22 | 29 | 29 | 30 |
| E Y | 6/60 | 11 | 11 | 17 | 23 | 35 | 35 | 36 |
| E | CF/HM | 12 | 12 | 18 | 24 | 36 | 36 | 40 |
| Nork and Non-visio | nodifiers eg d independe on physical o of Daily Life | ence disability | | retinopat | thy | | | 0 to +20 to10 to 10 to 13 to 7 |



24pts



The Auckland Cataract Study 1:

waiting for surgery in a developed country

Harbour Bridge Study (N=193)

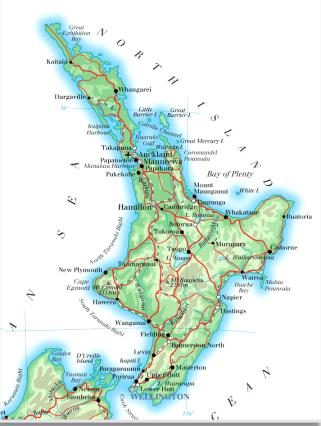
| Mean age | 77.2 years |
|-----------|-------------|
| Mean wait | 18.2+/-11.6 |

Mean BSCVA 6/36

Outcome

| Still waiting | 49% |
|------------------|-----|
| Expedited Rx | 4% |
| Private Surgery | 21% |
| Deceased | 12% |
| Declined Surgery | 12% |







The Waiting Game: The natural history of a cataract waiting list in New Zealand AF Riley, C Grupcheva, TY Malik, JP Craig, CN McGhee. Clin Expt Ophthalmol 2001

Auckland Cataract Project: Associated Systemic Disease

The majority of those with significant cataract have General Health issues

| Hypertension | 25% |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Cerebral vascular disease | 12% |
| Diabetes Melitus | 11% |
| Ischaemic Heart disease | 10% |
| Rx | |
| Aspirin | 42% |
| Warfarin | 6% |



Pre-proliferative diabetic retinopathy



Auckland Cataract Study 1

488 consecutive cataract operations

Moderately advanced cataracts with mean BSCVA of 6/48 (20/160)

Mean pre-op refraction -0.49 +/- 1.03D 99.8% local anaesthesia (95% subtenons) 97.5% small incision phacoemulsification Typically less than 30 minute procedure



The Auckland Cataract Study: co-morbidity, surgical techniques and clinical outcomes in a Public Hospital Service. *Andrew Riley, Tahira Malik, Christina Grupcheva, Michael Fisk, Jennifer Craig, Charles McGhee. Bjitish Journal of Ophthalmology 2002*

Phacoemulsification outcomes (N=488)

Unselected, consecutive, moderately advanced cataracts treated in a tertiary public hospital by residents / consultants

Outcome :

Mean BSCVA= 6/7.5 (20/25)Majority (88%) $\geq 6/12 (20/40)$ Mean SphEq-0.46+/-0.89D

Complications :

4.9% capsular tears
3.7% cystoid macular oedema
0.2% endophthalmitis
<u>1.5% of eyes red'n in potential BSCVA due to surgery</u>





The Auckland Cataract Study: co-morbidity, surgical techniques and clinical outcomes in a Public Hospital Service. *Andrew Riley, Tahira Malik, Christina Grupcheva, Michael Fisk, Jennifer Craig, Charles McGhee. BJO 2002*

The Initial Auckland Study: Summary 1

Predominantly elderly, majority female population

Significant systemic illness and co-existing ocular diseases,

Relatively advanced cataracts and poor visual acuity

Majority (97.5%) phacoemulsification, local anaesthetic (mainly sub-Tenons anaesthesia), day-case surgery in 2000

Remaining 2.5% underwent extra-capsular cataract surgery



The Initial Auckland Study: Summary 2

Almost 90% achieved BSCVA of 6/12 (20/40) or better which meets the NZ & UK driver's licence standard.

~5% of eyes had an adverse intra-operative event

However, only 1.5% of eyes exhibited poorer post-operative BSCVA than predicted based on overall eye health in 2000







ACS 2000: Complications Summary

CLINICAL SCIENCE

The Auckland Cataract Study: co-morbidity, surgical techniques, and clinical outcomes in a public hospital service

Andrew F Riley, Tahira Y Malik, Christina N Grupcheva, Michael J Fisk, Jennifer P Craig, Charles N McGhee

| N=500 Intraoperative complications | n | % | |
|--|----|------|--|
| Posterior capsule tear | 24 | 4.9% | |
| Iris prolapse / Iris trauma | 21 | 4.3% | |
| Wounds retraction/minor phaco burn | 19 | 3.9% | |
| Incomplete capsulorrhexis | 11 | 2.2% | |
| Dropped lens fragment | 4 | 0.8% | |
| Consultants 320 phacoemulsifications - 4.7% capsule tear | | | |
| Registrars 168 phacoemulsifications - 5.4% capsule tear | | | |

Always consider knowledge in context of contemporary international evidence base

Posterior capsule rupture 1.9 - 5.2%

• Cystoid macular oedema 1.0 - 5.7%

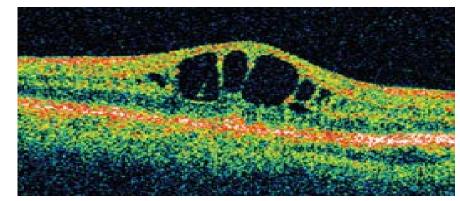
Riley A, Malik T, Grupcheva C, et al. The Auckland Cataract Study: co-morbidity, surgical techniques and clinical outcomes in a public hospital service. Br J Ophthalmol. **2002**;86:185-90.

Narendran N, Jaycock P, Johnston RL, et al. The cataract national dataset electronic multicenter audit of 55 567 operations: risk stratification for posterior capsule rupture and vitreous loss. Eye. **2009**;23:31-37

Ti SE, Yang YN, Lang SS, et al. A 5-Year audit of cataract surgery outcomes after posterior capsule rupture and risk factors affecting visual acuity. Am J Ophthalmol **2014**;157:180-185

Kothari M, Thomas R, Parikh R, et al. The incidence of vitreous loss and visual outcome in patients undergoing cataract surgery in a teaching hospital. Indian J Ophthalmol **2003**; 51:45–52.

Wegener M, Alsbirk PH, Højgaard-Olsen K. Outcome of 1000 consecutive clinic- and hospital-based cataract surgeries in a Danish county. J Cataract Refract Surg **1998**; 24:1152–1160





Auckland cataract Studies 2000 to 2020

Considering

Contemporary trends and outcomes Registrar training and patient safety Risk stratification for cataract surgery Decreasing intra-operative complications





What's new in IOL design?

Developments since ACS 2000

Posterior capsule opacity & square edge
Multifocal / accommodative IOLs
Coloured IOLs & macular protection
Correction of astigmatism
Correction of spherical aberration
Specialised IOLs for reconstruction





An Evidence based approach



Can we do better in assessing surgical risk for a patient? Can we improve complication rates in a teaching hospital?



Audit: Cataract Surgery in Auckland 2002 to 2015 Can we make further improvements in a teaching hospital?

| 2002 | | 2015 | |
|-------|-------------------------|-------|--|
| 4.9% | Posterior capsule tear* | 2.6% | |
| 3.8% | Cystoid macular oedema | 3.5% | |
| 67.7% | UAVA 6/12 or better | 73.9% | |
| | | | |

*May reflect better technology, less advanced cases, and improved training

PART 2: Auckland Cataract Studies: Improving outcomes Routine procedure & standard of care 2020

- Almost all cases ambulatory same-day surgery
- Anaesthesia typically sub-Tenons L.A. in DHBs
- Routine cases approx. 30 minutes theatre time
- Pad or shield overnight with day 1 and 28 review
- Post-op. Rx topical antibiotic (Chloramphenicol) for two weeks and topical steroid (Prednisolone or Dexamethasone) for four weeks



Auckland Cataract Study II Risk stratification: Non-intervention phase (NIP)



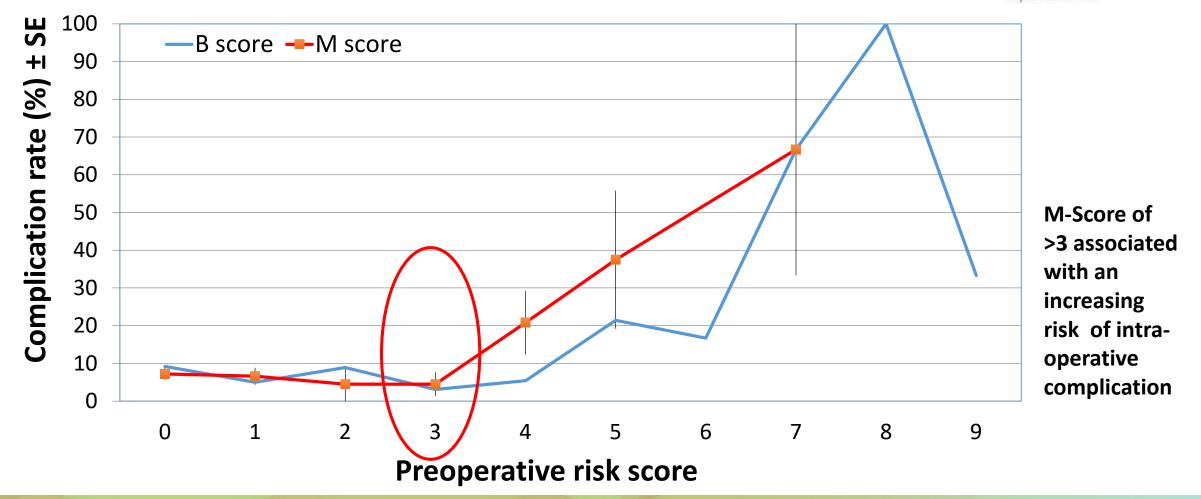
- Preoperative data used to calculate individual risk scores (N=500) surgeon unaware of score
- Muhtaseb et al. and Butler T.K. risk scoring systems utilized
- Certain patient factors associated increased risk of intraoperative complications



 Muhtaseb M, Kalhoro A, Ionides A. A system for preoperative stratification of cataract patients according to risk of intraoperative complications a prospective analysis of 1441 cases. Br J Ophthalmol 2004;88:1242–1246
 Butler TK. Risk stratification and assessment in cataract surgery. J Cataract Refr Surg. 2012; 38(1):184

Intraoperative complication rate per risk score in Auckland cataract Study IIA. Observational / NIP Phase





- Muhtaseb M, Kalhoro A, Ionides A. A system for preoperative stratification of cataract patients according to risk of intraoperative complications a prospective analysis of 1441 cases. Br J Ophthalmol 2004;88:1242–1246
 Dutles TK, Disk stratification and account is established by the patients of 2012, 20(1):104
- Butler TK. Risk stratification and assessment in cataract surgery. J Cataract Refr Surg. 2012; 38(1):184

Auckland Cataract Study IIB Mutasheb intervention phase (MIP) 2016



- Preoperatively scored a further 500 cases
- Suggested cases scoring >3 be performed by fellows/consultants



Kim BZ, Patel DV, Sherwin T, McGhee CN. The Auckland Cataract Study: Assessing Preoperative Risk Stratification Systems for Phacoemulsification Surgery in a Teaching Hospital. Am J Ophthalmol. **2016** Nov;171:145-150. Kim BZ, Patel DV, McGhee CN. Auckland cataract study 2: clinical outcomes of phacoemulsification cataract surgery in a public teaching hospital. Clin Exp Ophthalmol.**2017** Feb 7. [Epub ahead of print]

Complication rates per surgeon group Auckland Cataract Study IIA (NIP) vs IIB (MIP)



- Note: complications ascribed to primary surgeon
- Case-adjusted odds ratios between groups not significantly different registrars/ fellows/ consultants had similar complication rates, allowing for appropriate allocation

Auckland Study II (MIP): Conclusions

- **1.** Risk scores correlate with complication rates
- 2. Fewer intraoperative complications with stratification
- 3. Higher risk cases appropriately allocated senior surgeons
- 4. Lower risk cases also benefit from increased awareness?
- 5. ? "Hawthorne effect" altered behavior when studied

The Auckland Cataract Study II: reducing intraoperative complications by preoperative risk stratification and case allocation in a teaching hospital. Kim BZ, Patel DV, McKelvie J, McGhee C. Am J Ophthalmol 2017







Auckland Cataract Study III: (NZCRS 1) 2017 Employing the evidence base in practice



To assess New Zealand Cataract Risk Stratification system (NZCRS-1) on intraoperative complications of cataract surgery

Prospective cohort study

- 500 cases of phacoemulsification cataract surgery
- Public teaching hospital, Auckland, NZ
- 43 surgeons, 24 consultants 19 trainees*

NZ Cataract Risk Stratification (NZCRS)

Please tick ALL that apply:

| Points | Risk factor | Points | | |
|---------------|---|--|--|--|
| 3 🗆 | High ametropia (>6D myopia/ hyperopia) | 1 🗆 | | |
| 3 🗆 | Posterior capsule plaque (1) | 1 🗆 | | |
| 3 🗆 | Posterior polar cataract (1) | 1 🗆 | | |
| 2 🗆 | Shallow AC (<2.5mm) (1) | 1 🗆 | | |
| 1 🗆 | Small pupil (<3mm dilated) (1) | 1 🗆 | | |
| 1 🗆 | Miscellaneous risks assessed by surgeon (e.g. poor position/ cooperation) (1) | 1 🗆 | | |
| Total points: | | | | |
| | | 3High ametropia (>6D myopia/ hyperopia)3Posterior capsule plaque (1)3Posterior polar cataract (1)3Shallow AC (<2.5mm) (1) | | |

Please tick:

Previous vitrectomy? Yes No Only eye? Yes No

If total points >3 OR prev vity OR only eye, then fellow or SMO only case (tick below)

Fellow or SMO ONLY case





Outcomes Intraoperative complications

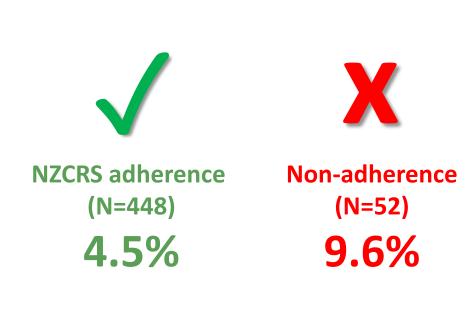
Postoperative complications, Visual acuity (4-6 weeks

Pre-op all patient clinical notes reviewed by single investigator, risk score calculated using NZCRS

NZCRS-1: Intraoperative complications



| | NZCRS (N=500) |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Intraoperative complications (Total) | 5.0% |
| Iris prolapse | 1.4% |
| Iris trauma | 1.2% |
| Anterior capsule tear | 1.4% |
| Dropped nucleus | 0.2% |
| Post. capsule tear ± vitreous loss | 0.6% |
| Zonule dehiscence | 0.6% |
| Vitreous loss | 0.0% |



Visual outcome NZCRS : 1 month



| NZCRS | Preoperative | Postoperative (4-6 weeks) | P-values |
|------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|----------|
| Unaided visual acuity | 6/38 | 6/12 | <0.05 |
| Best corrected visual acuity | 6/20 | 6/10 | <0.05 |

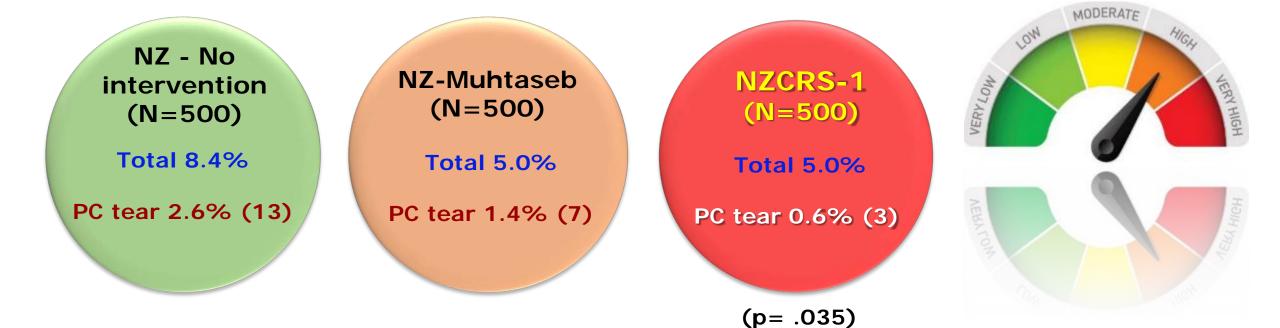
No patients excluded on basis of co-morbidity e.g. glaucoma, AMD, diabetic retinopathy

Preceding NIP and MIP phases postoperative BCVA: 6/9 (20/30)



Intraoperative complications: 3-phase prospective Auckland Cataract Study (N=1500)





Phase 1: (NIP) risk score calculated but no intervention Phase 2: (MIP) risk score calculated with intervention Phase 3: NZCRS-1 risk score calculated with intervention

Auckland Cataract Study IV: NZCRS-2 standard of care phase



Intraoperative complication rate

- Registrar 5% (5/100 cases)
- Fellows 5.7% (2/35 cases)
- Consultants 2.2% (8/365 cases)

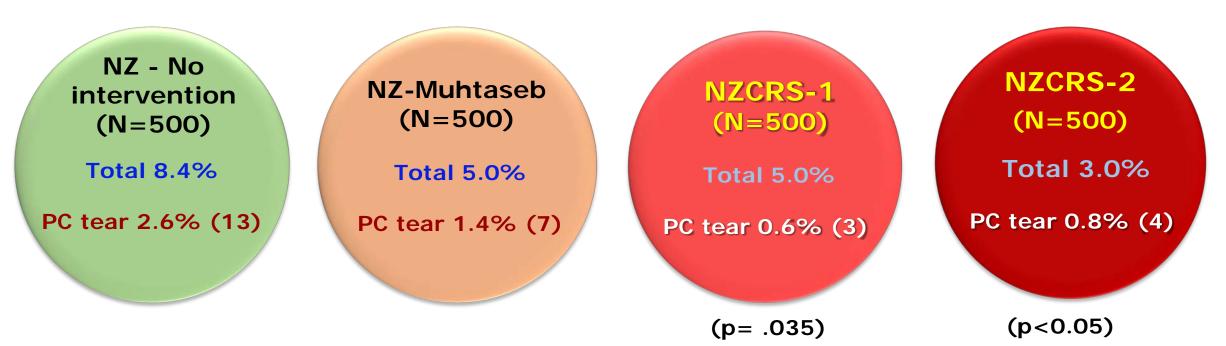
Mean NZCRS-2 risk score per group

- Registrar 0.81
- Fellows 1.6
- Consultants 1.6



Comparing Auckland Cataract Studies II-IV: intraoperative complications (N=2000)





Phase 1: (NIP) risk score calculated but no intervention

Phase 2: (MIP) risk score calculated with intervention Phase 3: NZCRS-1 risk score calculated with intervention Phase 4: NZCRS-2 risk score calculated with intervention but no oversight

Risk stratification with NZCRS



- Does stratification work?
 - 64% reduction of intraoperative complications (8.4% to 3.0% p<0.05)
 - Reduced severity of complications (PCR 2.6% to <1.0%)
- Practical in day-to-day clinical setting?
 - Good utilisation initial setup phase (80.5%)
 - Excellent adherence to stratification (99%)

Han JV, Patel DV, Wallace HB, Kim BZ, Sherwin T, McGhee CNJ. **Auckland Cataract Study III:** Refining Preoperative Assessment With Cataract Risk Stratification to Reduce Intraoperative Complications. Am J Ophthalmol. 2019 Apr;200:253-254. Han JV, Patel DV, Liu K, Kim BZ, Sherwin T, McGhee CNJ. **Auckland Cataract Study IV**: Practical application of NZCRS cataract risk stratification to reduce phacoemulsification complications. Clin Exp Ophthalmol. 2019 Dec 5. [Epub ahead of print]

NZCRS Risk Stratification Summary

- Reduction of intraoperative complications with NZCRS
 - Despite higher proportion of high risk cases/ trainees

- Preoperative risk stratification
 - identification of high risk cases
 - appropriate allocation of case
 - Increased awareness of risk factors
 - Enables comparison of case complexity in training assessments



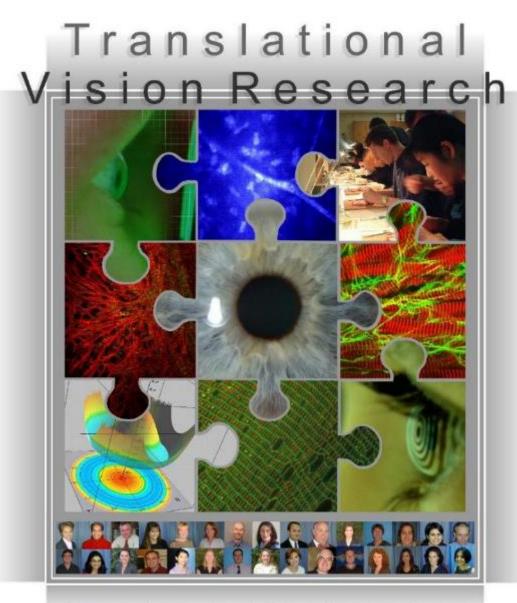


Summary: Auckland Studies 2000-2020

- Prospective study of more than 3000 patients
- Almost all patients undergo phacoemulsification cataract surgery with local anesthesia.
- Despite co-existing eye disease majority achieved 6/12 meeting the NZ driving standard.
- 5% of of eyes experienced adverse intra-operative event however only 1.0% visually significant
- 3% will develop cystoid macular oedema (most common post-operative complication)
- Only 1.0 1.5% of eyes exhibit poorer post-operative BSCVA than anticipated.
- Severe post-operative complications endophthalmitis and retinal detachment were uncommon
- Cataract stratification enables best allocation of patient to surgeons and decreases complications



Namkung S, Han JV, McGhee CNJ. Harmonizing cataract surgery training and patient-centred care in 2020: Disclosure, consent, supervision and patient altruism. Clin Exp Ophthalmol. 2019;47(8):975-977.



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The End

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