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Ahmed vs Baerveldt Glaucoma Drainage Device in Uveitic Glaucoma

Zoe McWatters

Thomas Jefferson University, zoe.mcwatters@jefferson.edu

Sapna Sinha, MD

Wills Eye Hospital

Allen Ganjei

Drexel University

Marlene Moster, MD

Wills Eye Hospital

Michael Pro, MD

Wills Eye Hospital

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Authors

Zoe McWatters; Sapna Sinha, MD; Allen Ganjei; Marlene Moster, MD; Michael Pro, MD; Elizabeth Dale, MD; Daniel Lee, MD; Jonathan S. Myers, MD; L. J. Katz, MD; Scott Fudenberg, MD; Anand Mantravadi, MD; Natasha Kolomeyer, MD; and Reza Razeghniejad, MD

Zoe McWatters

SI/CTR Abstract

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Ahmed vs Baerveldt Glaucoma Drainage Device in Uveitic Glaucoma

Zoe McWatters³; Sapna Sinha, MD¹; Allen Ganjei²; Marlene Moster, MD¹; Michael Pro,
MD¹; Elizabeth Dale, MD¹; Daniel Lee, MD¹; Jonathan S. Myers, MD¹; L. J. Katz, MD¹;
Scott Fudenberg, MD¹; Anand Mantravadi, MD¹; Natasha Kolomeyer, MD¹; Reza
Razeghinejad, MD^{1*}

¹Wills Eye Hospital, Glaucoma Research Center, Philadelphia, PA

²Drexel University College of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA

³Sidney Kimmel Medical College, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA

Introduction: Uveitis is an inflammatory eye disorder which may elevate intraocular pressure (IOP), causing sight-threatening glaucoma. Treatment of refractory uveitic glaucoma involves implantation of a glaucoma drainage device (GDD). Uveitic glaucoma has been a minority diagnosis in prior studies comparing the valved Ahmed GDD and non-valved Baerveldt GDD. Here we compare the safety and efficacy of the Ahmed and Baerveldt GDD in uveitic glaucoma.

Methods: This retrospective comparative study was conducted on patients with uveitic glaucoma (≥ 14 years old) who underwent Ahmed or Baerveldt GDD implantation between 2006–2018 with a minimum follow-up of 3 months. Success was defined as IOP of 6-21 mmHg with (complete success) or without (qualified success) medications, with at least light perception vision and no further glaucoma surgery. Pearson Chi-

squared test, independent t test, and Kaplan-Meier survival model were utilized for statistical analysis.

Results: 137 eyes of 122 patients (67 Ahmed and 70 Baerveldt) were included.

Baseline characteristics were comparable in both groups. The Baerveldt group experienced greater IOP reduction (60.3% vs. 44.5%), higher complete success rate (28.6% vs. 10.4%), higher complication rate (44.3% vs. 20.9%), and higher hypotony rate (10% vs. 0%) than the Ahmed group (all p values <0.05).

Discussion: Our results are in line with pooled analysis of previous GDD comparison studies on various types of glaucoma. For patients with uveitic glaucoma, the Baerveldt implant provided a significantly higher success rate and greater IOP reduction with fewer medications, but was associated with a higher complication rate, compared to the Ahmed implant.