Ptosis and Strabismus Surgery Performed Simultaneously

Pediatric ophthalmologists occasionally examine a child who needs both strabismus and ptosis surgery. If the patient has a vertical deviation, especially a hypotropia, it might be prudent to perform the strabismus surgery first because the correction may have an effect on the preoperative amount of ptosis. How much, if any, effect horizontal surgery has on the eyelid position is unclear. Another concern of simultaneous surgery is whether there is a greater chance of infection.

In this issue, the study of Zhou et al. had only 10 patients, so it is difficult from so few patients to clearly answer the concern of eyelid changes and infection rate. The authors stated that the vertical eyelid fissure width had to be taken into account when planning the amount of ptosis correction. However, it was not clear from this study how much a possible change in the dosage of ptosis repair was influenced by horizontal strabismus surgery. The authors stated that the effect of strabismus surgery on the width of the palpebral fissure needs to be studied further.

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