

MEETING NEWS COVERAGE

The European Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons meeting

## CLASS yields promising long-term results in glaucoma patients

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BARCELONA — Five-year results of CO<sub>2</sub> laser-assisted sclerectomy surgery showed lower rates of IOP and complications in open-angle glaucoma patients, according to a speaker here.

“CLASS is simple to perform and has a short learning curve. This is very important. The long-term results proved high in safety and significant reduction in the number of medications. Long-term efficacy shows significant IOP reduction,” **Noa Geffen, MD**, said at the European Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons meeting.

The prospective single-arm multicenter study included 111 patients with either primary open-angle glaucoma or pseudoexfoliation glaucoma who underwent CO<sub>2</sub> laser-assisted sclerectomy surgery (CLASS). The surgery was performed with the IOPTimate system (IOPtima).



**Noa Geffen**

Mean IOP was reduced from 25.8 mm Hg preoperatively to 13.5 mm Hg, 14.2 mm Hg and 14.3 mm Hg at 1 year, 3 years and 5 years postoperatively, respectively. Mean number of medications was reduced from 2.41 preoperatively to 0.5, 0.7 and 0.8 at 1 year, 3 years and 5 years postoperatively, respectively.

“On the first postoperative day, there was a significant reduction in pressure, and then the pressure plateaued and kept over the 5 years,” Geffen said.

The success rate at 1 year, 3 years and 5 years was 78.5%, 84.8% and 86.4%, respectively.

Patients who underwent the CLASS procedure had a complication rate of 39.8% at 5 years compared with 63% in patients who underwent trabeculectomy in the Tube Versus Trabeculectomy Study. – *by Nhu Te*

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**Reference:**

Gedde SJ, et al. *Am J Ophthalmol*. 2012;doi:10.1016/j.ajo.2011.10.026.