

BREAKTHROUGH INNOVATION IN CATARACT SURGERY

AWARD WINNING TECHNOLOGY REVIVING THE JOYS OF VISION

By Dr. Mahipal Sachdev

Cataract is the leading cause of blindness in India. It presents usually after 45 years of age and is considered as a problem of ageing. Almost 11 million cases are there in India. The unfortunate aspect of cataract blindness is that it is reversible by surgery but lack of surgical facilities in the rural areas has resulted in the backlog of patients needing cataract surgery.

Cataract blindness is a public health problem of major proportions in the developing world. 41.8% of global blindness; in which 23.5% is contributed by India; is caused by cataract alone. Blindness is a disease which has severe economic repercussions and adversely affects the productivity.

But now with the advent of newer technologies and modern innovations, cataract surgery has come a long way. It has been a long journey from the traditional extra capsular cataract surgery to small incision cataract surgery to Phacoemulsification surgeries. We have gone ONE STEP AHEAD and achieved ways to reduce the incision size of the cataract surgery (making it less than 1.8mm) there by speeding the wound healing and wound stability and decreasing the post operative corneal astigmatism.

This has been made possible by a combination of improved methodology and improved equipment availability. The combination of high vacuum flow restrictive tubing, STELLARISMICS needle, the Stellaris Microsurgical System and the MICROINCISIONAL lenses by Bausch and Lomb provide us just that.

In Stellaris Micro Incision Cataract Surgery system, cataract can be removed through a very small incision of 1.8mm followed by an implantation of AKREOS AO MIL.

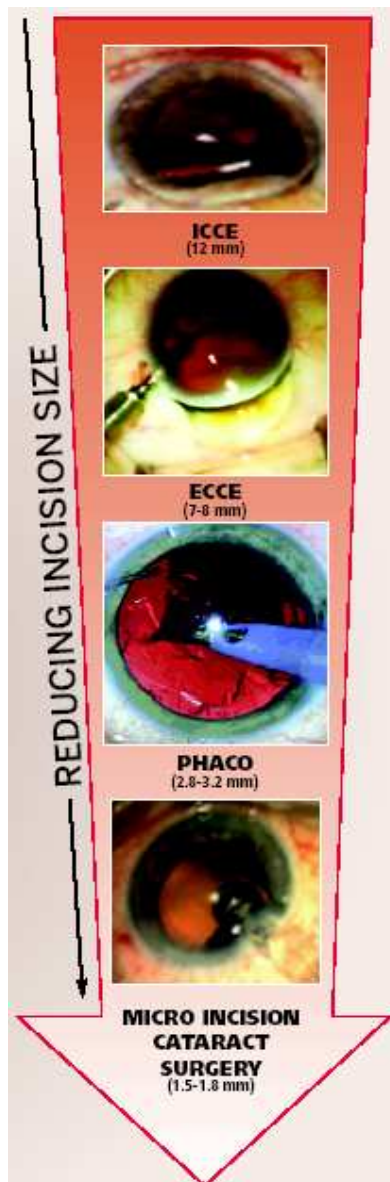
Cataract Surgery is now being done routinely through 1.8 / 2mm incision (STELLARIS Micro Incision Cataract Surgery / Micro Coaxial Cataract surgery).

Another important development, which has taken place, is the development of AKREOS AO MIL. These IOLs provide the advantage of being able to pass through a very tiny incision 1.8 / 2mm. These lenses are also Aspheric lenses, aberration free which can increase the contrast sensitivity and the visual acuity for the patient.

Providing ways and means to make the incision small while doing Phaco would be fruitless if we had to increase the incision in order to place the lens. Thus with increasing popularity of micro Phaco came the need to modify the lenses and their delivery system to make the effort worth while.

ADVANTAGES OF SMALLER INCISION

- The visual recovery is faster.
- Patient can return to his normal activities within 24-28 hours of surgery.
- Minimal or no trauma to the Ocular tissue
- Better visual acuity
- Highly safe surgery



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