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OUTCOMES OF EPIRETINAL HUMAN AMNIOTIC MEMBRANE TRANSPLANT FOR REFRACTORY MACULAR HOLES

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To analyze anatomical and functional outcomes of epiretinal human amniotic membrane (hAM) transplant in refractory macular hole (MH) surgery, present retinal layers structure after MH closure, identify visual acuity improvement levels.

Retrospective case series including ten patients with refractory MH. All patients underwent pars plana vitrectomy, epiretinal hAM transplant, tamponade and positioning. Complete ophthalmological examination, best-corrected visual acuity (BCVA), optical coherence tomography (OCT) findings were recorded.

Mean follow-up was 7 months (range 3–14). Mean LogMAR visual acuity (1.6 ± 0.37) improved significantly (1.0 ± 0.45) ($P < 0.001$). Patients with better baseline BCVA ended up with better final BCVA ($P = 0.012$). Mean MH minimum linear diameter was 715 ± 212 µm and base diameter was 1114 ± 258 µm. MH closed in all patients. OCT findings showed inner and other retinal layers rearrangement.

Epiretinal human amniotic membrane transplant may be a valuable approach to achieve macular hole closure and visual acuity improvement in refractory MH.

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