

OCULAR SURGERY NEWS[®]

COVER STORY



Possible consequences on organogenesis, neurodevelopment still a concern with use of anti-VEGFs in ROP

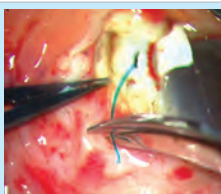
Point/Counter

How do you manage children who have persistent plus disease or progressive ROP after laser or anti-VEGF treatment?

COMMENTARY



Retinopathy of prematurity: Where are we today?



Haptic modification needed for glued IOL fixation in microcornea

Global Notebook

Survey highlights heavy burden, high level of emotional distress related to intravitreal injections

Partner Societies

The Young Ophthalmologist

Emerging trends and hot topics in glaucoma from ARVO 2015

Meeting News Coverage

ESCRS 2015



Ophthalmic community grieves Jan Worst, leader in IOL innovation

Meetings & Courses

MEETING NEWS COVERAGE

EuCornea • Barcelona • September 4-5

Cross-linking studied as alternative to antibiotic treatment for infectious keratitis

OSN staff
attended this
meeting

Photoactivated chromophore for keratitis, a cross-linking technique specifically aimed at treating infectious keratitis, is showing promising results and could be a valid alternative to antibiotics at a time when resistance is an alarming concern, according to a speaker.

“PACK-CXL cross-linking dates back to 2007, when our group realized that CXL could treat corneal infections. One of the key elements in our discovery was solar disinfection, propagated by WHO as a means to make water drinkable,” **Farhad Hafezi, MD, PhD**, said.

The incidence of infectious keratitis, defined by the WHO as a “silent epidemic,” varies greatly at a global level, with 60,000 cases per year in the U.S. and almost 1 million cases per year in India. Contact lens wear is the main cause in Western countries, while minor corneal injuries prevail in the developing world.



Farhad Hafezi

In vitro studies have shown 99.9% efficacy of PACK-CXL (EMAGine) in killing the bacteria that are responsible for 90% of infectious keratitis.

The Swiss PACK-CXL phase 3 multicenter study is currently evaluating the efficacy of the cross-linking technique as a first-line treatment of infectious keratitis in comparison to antibiotic treatment. It will eventually include patients from 17 sites in 15 countries across continents. Only early-stage infections, not deeper than 300 μm , are treated in the study.



Disclosure: Hafezi reports he is chief scientific officer of EMAGine.